FLOWER COMICS

# 風と木の詩

17

竹宮恵子

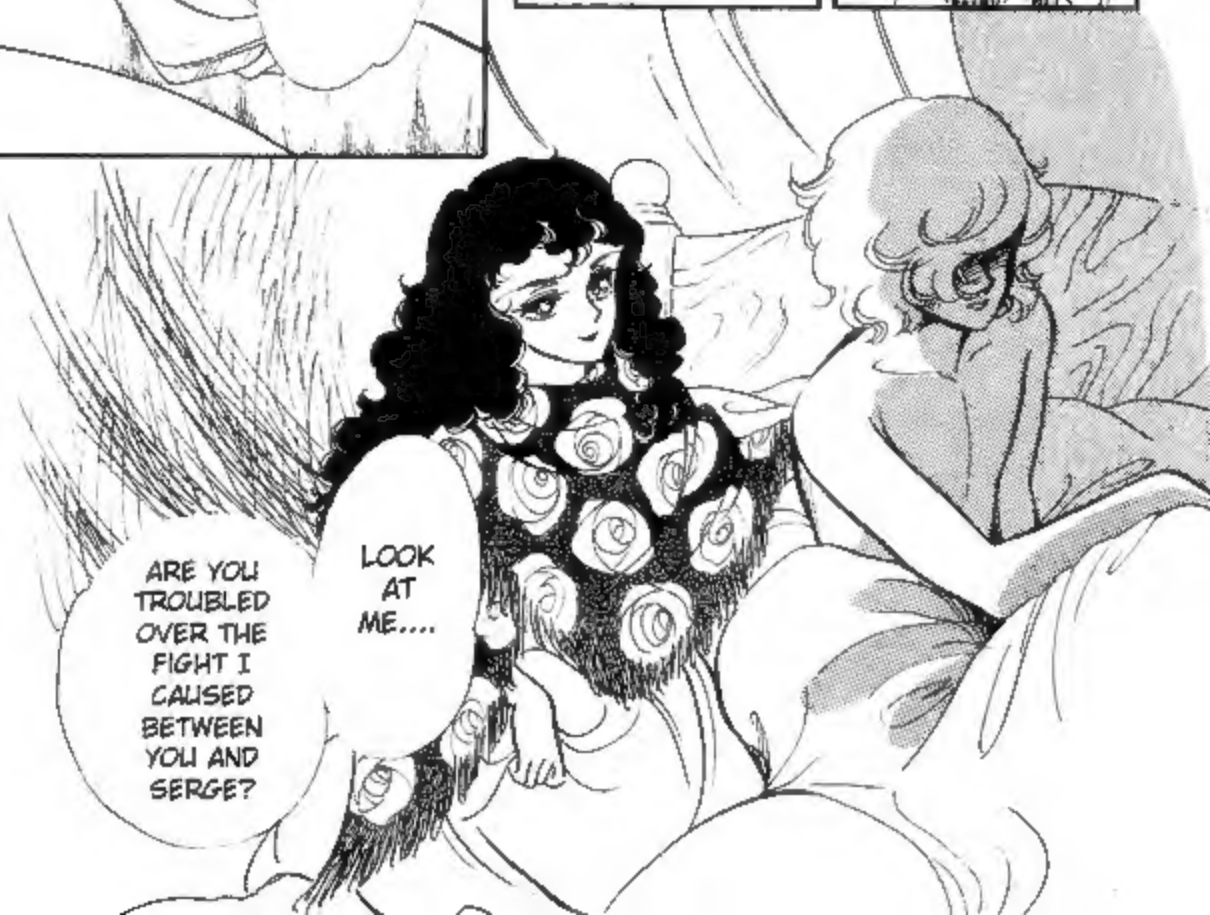
＊フラワーコミックス＊

♬
THE SEAGULLS ERASE THE UNCERTAINTY AND ANXIETY OF EVERY DAY,
IN THE DEN OF LOVE
♬

I'M IN LOVE, BUT MY HEART IS IN TWO.
WHY WON'T IT MELD INTO ONE?
WHY DO YOU SING? AREN'T YOUR HEARTS FEELING HEAVY...?
SEAGULLS, OH SEA-GULLS.
C'EST LA VIE.
THAT'S AMOUR.
C'EST LA VIE.
AMOUR.
IN THE DEN OF LOVE.....
THE ANXIETY AND UNCER-TAINTY OF EVERY DAY
THE SEA-GULLS ERASE

HE'S LEFT... SERGE HAS.

I BROUGHT YOU SOME FOOD.
YOU SHOULDN'T BE EATING BY YOUR-SELF, DON'T YOU THINK?


LOOK AT ME....
ARE YOU TROUBLED OVER THE FIGHT I CAUSED BETWEEN YOU AND SERGE?

I SAID GET OUT!
...GET OUT.
I HATE BEING TOUCHED BY WOMEN. LEAVE NOW!!
YOU DON'T RESPECT ME AT ALL!
...TO SPITE SERGE.
YOU JUST SLEPT WITH ME...
THEY'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET SOMEONE INSIDE THEM!
WOMEN ARE ALL THE SAME ....

YOU IN PARTICULAR, BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T GET WITH SERGE, YOU WENT TO BED WITH ME AS REVENGE.
YOU ...
...ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
I HOPE YOU BOTH GO TO HELL!
YOU AND SERGE...
?
!

YES, I HOPE SO, TOO...
INTO THE DEPTHS OF HELL ....!

EVERY DAY, FURTHER AND FURTHER ....
WHAT IS THAT?
!?
IT'S A LETTER LEFT TO THE HOUSE, SIR.
IT DOESN'T SAY WHO SENT IT.
...THOUGH I HAVE NO IDEA WHO COULD'VE SENT THIS, I CAN IMAGINE WHAT THESE SORTS OF LETTERS CONTAIN....

SERGE IS ON HIS WAY HERE.
BUT YOU SENT ALL THE STUDENTS HOME!
WHAT'S WRONG, FATHER?
ARE YOU FEELING ILL!?
I DON'T WANT TO SAY ANY MORE THAN I NEED TO... YOU LEAVE AS WELL.
COULD IT BE... FATHER, YOU AND SERGE ARE...!

THIS ROOM IS ALWAYS FULL OF STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE AFTER-NOON.
... NO ONE IS HERE?
... YOU'VE ARRIVED
STEP INSIDE AND TAKE A SEAT.
YES, SIR ...

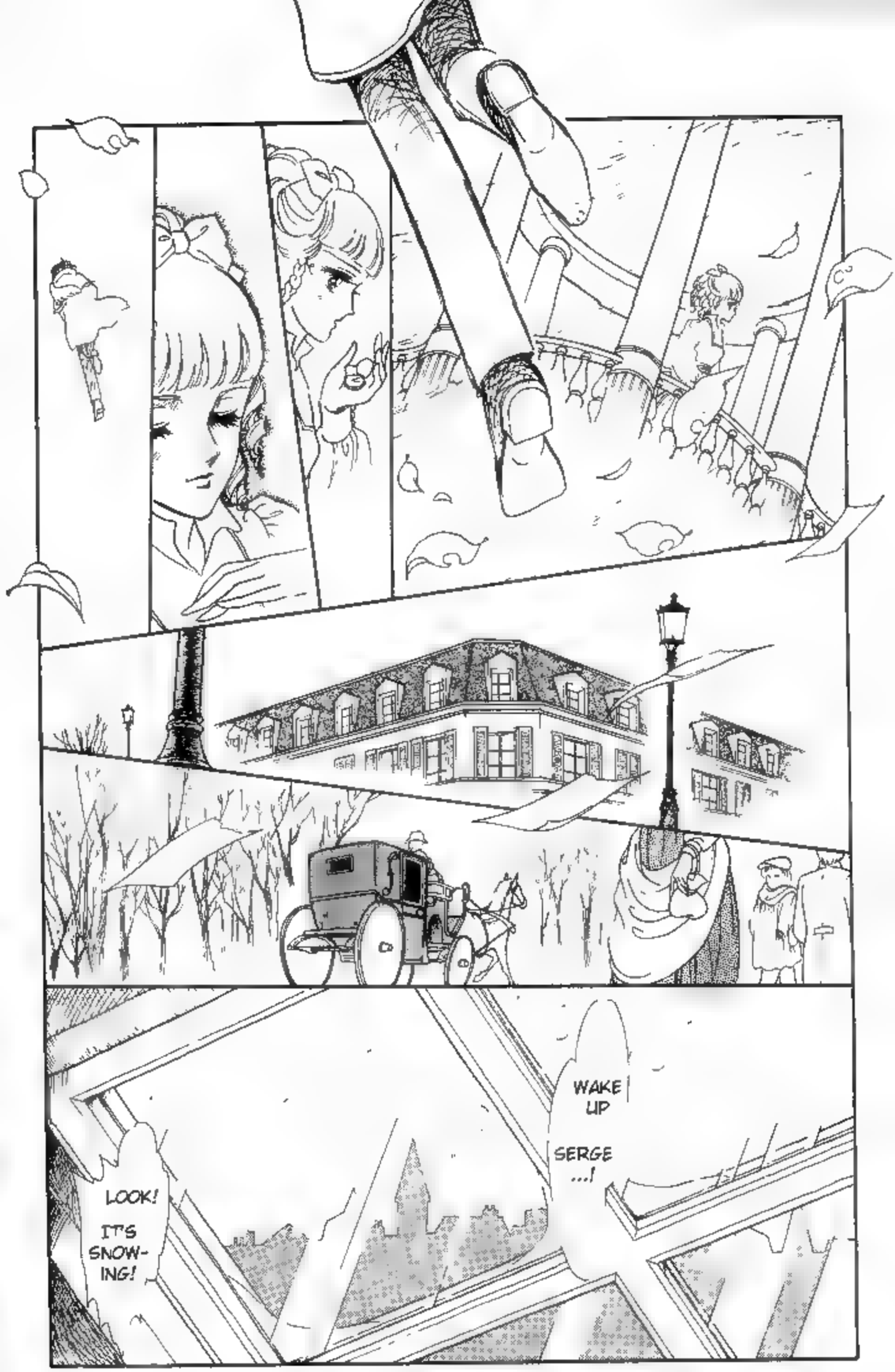
...IT'S A DIRTY TRICK.
THIS LETTER WITH NO NAME ATTACHED TO IT.
FOR SOME TIME NOW
I'VE BEEN THINKING HOW YOUR TALENT IS BEING...
WASTED HERE.
...BUT BEFORE WE TALK ABOUT THAT,
I WANT TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND FOR THE PAST WEEK.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY DAUGHTER, MARELLI?
...WAIT A MINUTE!
THAT'S ....
DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN BECOMING AN ADOPTED CHILD OF THIS HOUSE,
THAT WILL BE WEDDED TO MARELLI EVENTUALLY?
BUT SHE'S COMPLETELY SMITTEN WITH YOU.
THAT SEEMS LIKE A GOOD ENOUGH JUSTIFICATION ...
MARELLI MAY BE ....OLDER THAN YOU,
THAT WAY YOU CAN GO TO THE CONSERVATORY WITH NO PROBLEM.

...NON
PLEASE LET ME THINK ABOUT IT....
THIS IS ALL SO SUDDEN ....
... I MEAN,
I KNOW THIS IS WRONG TO BRING UP!
HUH?
... BUT,
THIS LETTER CHANGES EVERY-THING.
I ALSO DIDN'T WANT TO RUSH THIS,
SERGE.
!?
I JUST READ THIS.
YOU TRULY ARE A FINE UP-STANDING BOY.
IF YOU WERE TO DENY WHAT'S WRITTEN IN HERE ...
I WOULD BELIEVE YOU.

IT CAN'T BE....
...THAT IS COR-RECT.
LIVING AND SLEEPING WITH ANOTHER MAN!?
...ARE YOU REALLY,
LIKE THE LETTER SAYS,

... PLEASE WAIT!
... THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR ME.
IT'LL BE HARD TO LEAVE THE PIANO, BUT...
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE DEFEATED BY A LETTER LIKE THIS! IF YOU JUST AGREED TO LEAVE THAT BOY THE NEXT DAY....
I JUST GAVE YOU A CHANCE TO REDEEM YOUR-SELF!
THAT YOU WOULD ADMIT TO THIS!
IF I LEFT HIM, IT WOULD BE THE SAME AS KILLING HIM.
..... I CAN'T DO THAT.

...
HE BEHAVES ....
LIKE A YOUNG QUICK-WITTED, AGILE, BEAST
TO THINK THERE ARE STILL BOYS LIKE HIM...
I MUST BE GETTING OLD.
WHAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU GET TO PLAY THE PIANO!
YOU'D BE A PERFECT PIANO TEACHER, SERGE!
...
I CAN'T ...!
I CAN'T SEE PAT LIKE THIS.
IT'D BREAK MY HEART!
IF SHE SAW ME NOW,


WAKE UP
SERGE ...!
LOOK!
IT'S SNOW-ING!

...YOU SEEM HAPPY.
WHY AREN'T YOU HAPPY?
THAT'S BE-CAUSE YOU'RE HERE WITH ME.
I DON'T KNOW ...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE RESTED, SO I THINK I'M JUST TIRED.
THAT'S NOT WHY.
IT'S BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE THE PIANO.
IF ONLY I HAD THAT PRACTICE PIANO...

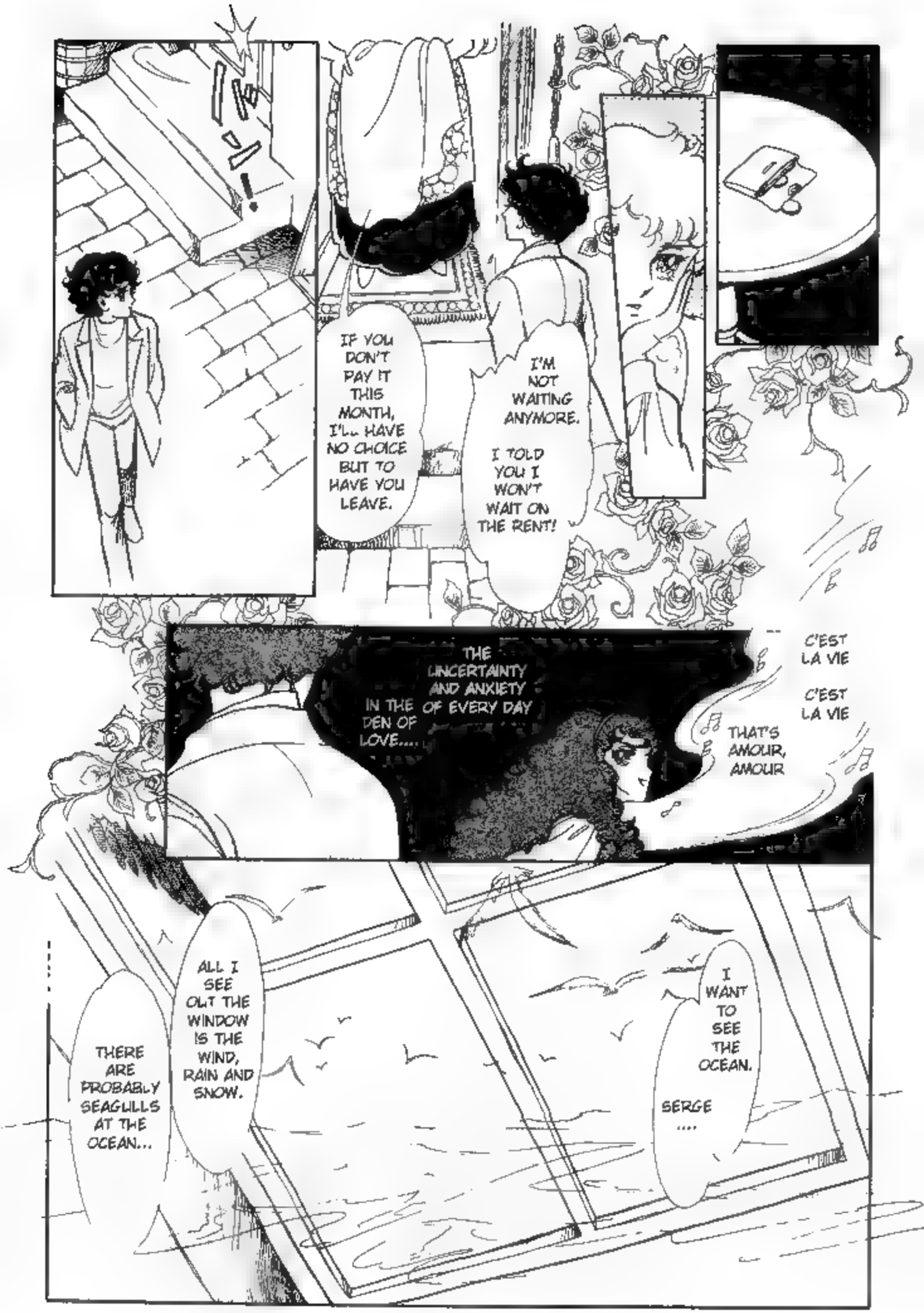
YOU CAN FORGET EVERY-THING, BEING LIKE THIS.
... FORGET ABOUT WORKING, AND EATING?
I'M NOT A PERSON THAT CAN LIVE LIKE YOU DO.
I CAN'T DO THAT, GILBERT.

SIR, WHY WON'T YOU HIRE HIM?
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT, RIGHT? HE SEEMED FINE.
THAT BOY IS NO GOOD! HE'S APPARENTLY ANGERED DARNIN'.
DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THAT.
THE JOB MARKET ISN'T IN A SLUMP.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I CAN'T FIND A JOB.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING SINCE THE MORNING, AND YET ....
QUIT YOUR YAPPING OVER THERE!
BACK TO WORK!
OHH ...?
THIS WINTER'S GONNA BE REAL ROUGH, THEN.
C'EST LA VIE.
C'EST LA VIE.
THE FLEETING THOUGHTS OF YEARNING RESTRAINED TO THE DEN OF LOVE.
THE SEAGULLS ARE KEEPING

SER
YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO KEEP ME!!
ALL YOU DO WHEN YOU COME HOME IS JUST LIE LIKE A CORPSE!
I'M TIRED, LET ME SLEEP ....
... MM
STOP, GILBERT.
SO CRUEL ...
YOU'RE CRUEL!
SO CRUEL!

I'M SO SLEEP DEPRIVED... I LOSE MY BREATH EASILY.
hah
hah
hah

THE WAY HE IS,
HE HAS NO WAY OF UNDER-STANDING, EVEN IF I TELL HIM ABOUT THE MONEY...
PLEASE ....
COME BACK, GILBERT.
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.


IF YOU DON'T PAY IT THIS MONTH, I'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO HAVE YOU LEAVE.
I'M NOT WAITING ANYMORE.
I TOLD YOU I WON'T WAIT ON THE RENT!
THE UNCERTAINTY AND ANXIETY OF EVERY DAY
IN THE DEN OF LOVE....
C'EST LA VIE
C'EST LA VIE
THAT'S AMOUR, AMOUR
THERE ARE PROBABLY SEAGULLS AT THE OCEAN...
ALL I SEE OUT THE WINDOW IS THE WIND, RAIN AND SNOW.
I WANT TO SEE THE OCEAN.
SERGE ....

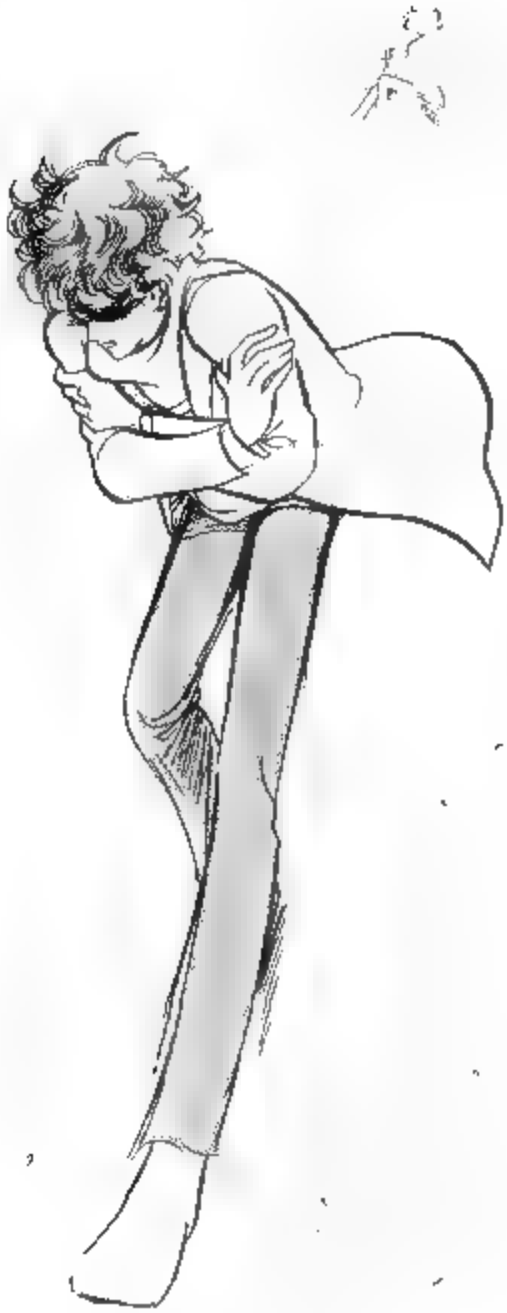
LET'S GO, GILBERT ....
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GO.
TO THE CLOSEST SEA TO PARIS...!
THAT IS OUR MEAGER ACT OF RESISTANCE.
EVEN IN THE FACE OF THIS KIND OF ADVERSITY, GILBERT, THIS IS WHAT YOU CAN THINK OF....
A MEAGER SIGN THAT WE'RE LIVING.

ギャア
ギャア
ギャア
ギャア
ギャア
IT'S HUGE ...

COULD PUT THE HEART AT EASE...
A SEA WITH NO ONE AROUND.
I NEVER KNEW ...
THAT A LONELY LAND-SCAPE LIKE THIS,
...I WANT
TO BECOME A BIRD ...

IS IT BECAUSE... HE FEELS SATISFIED?
STRANGELY ENOUGH, HIS CHEEKS ARE TINGED PINK.
GILBERT LEANS ON ME EVER SO SLIGHTLY.
AS WE GO BACK TO PARIS, THE SNOW TURNS TO RAIN...
BECAUSE THIS IS ALL WE HAVE.
NOT THAT IT MATTERS
WHAT'S IMPORTANT ARE THE COINS IN MY HAND.
HÔTEL DE HOMES
AND THE WET STREETS ARE BEGINNING TO FREEZE.
THE LIGHT RAIN HAS ALREADY STOPPED.
ALRIGHT ...LET'S WALK FOR A BIT, THEN.
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO THE APARTMENT.

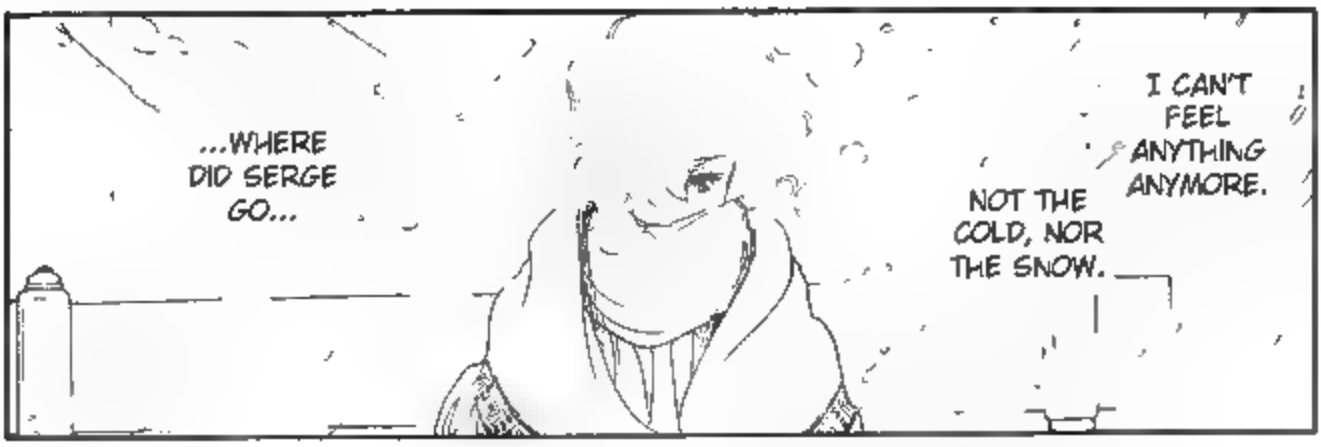
AND NOW IT'S SNOWING AGAIN...
...MY HANDS ARE COLD.
THE LIGHTS ON THE FOOD STALLS, THAT ARE PREPARING TO GO HOME ...
PEOPLE ARE HURRYING.
...HE LOOKS SO PITIFUL, FREEZING.
YET HE STILL DOESN'T WANT TO GO BACK ...
... WAIT HERE.
DON'T MOVE FROM THIS SPOT.
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, GILBERT!


I WANT TO LEAVE HIM THERE AND RUN AWAY.
....I WANT TO RUN AWAY!

IT'S ALREADY EVENING.

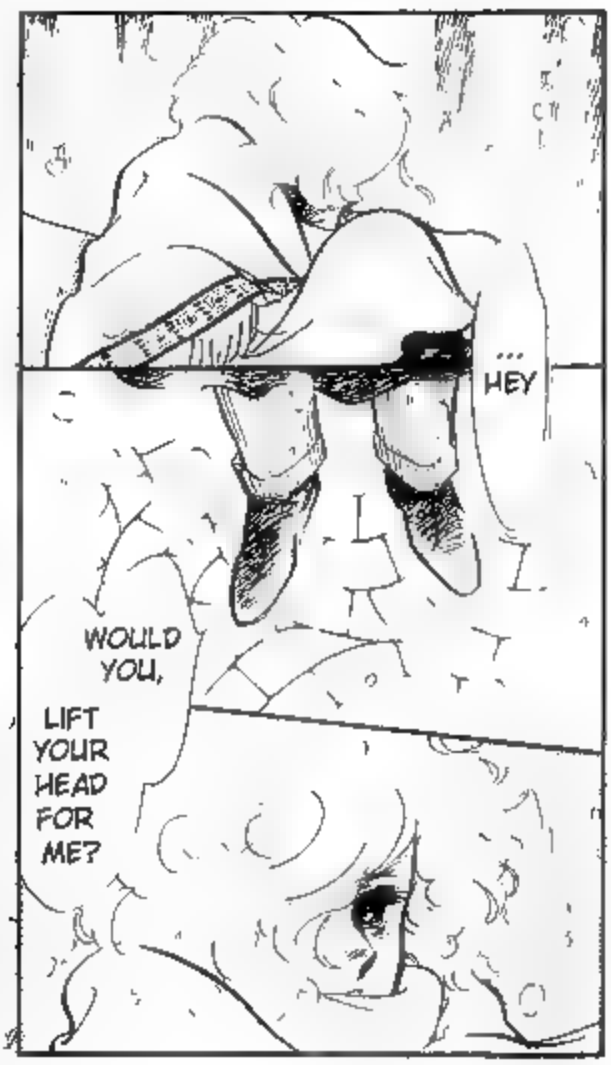
...THE CITY LIGHTS ARE COMING ON.

I HAVE TO CRY... SILENTLY.
THESE ARE THE FIRST TEARS I CAN'T SHOW ANYONE.

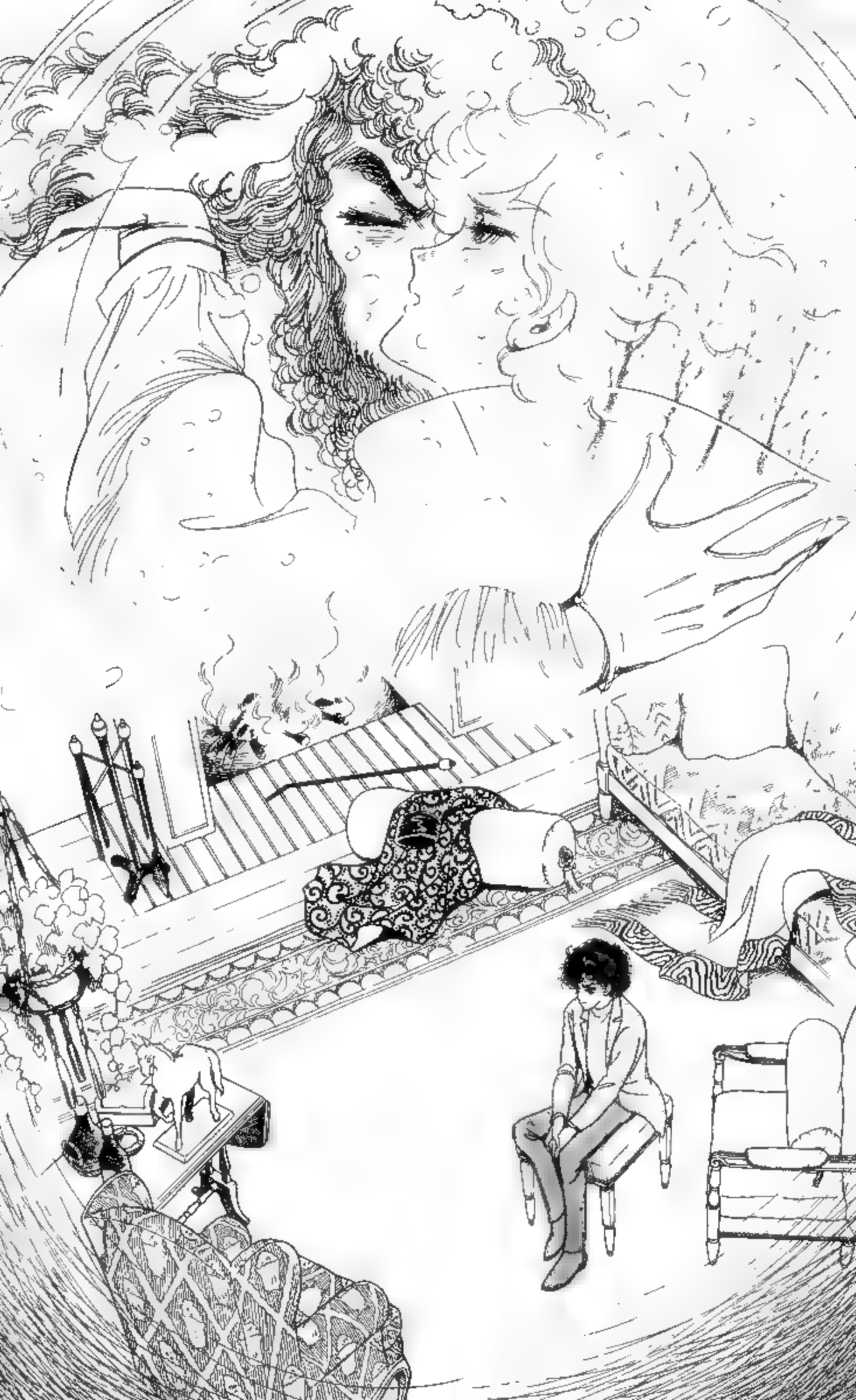

...WHERE DID SERGE GO...
NOT THE COLD, NOR THE SNOW.
I CAN'T FEEL ANYTHING ANYMORE.

IT DOESN'T MATTER... AS LONG AS I'M NOT BACK THERE...

YES.
... YOU-

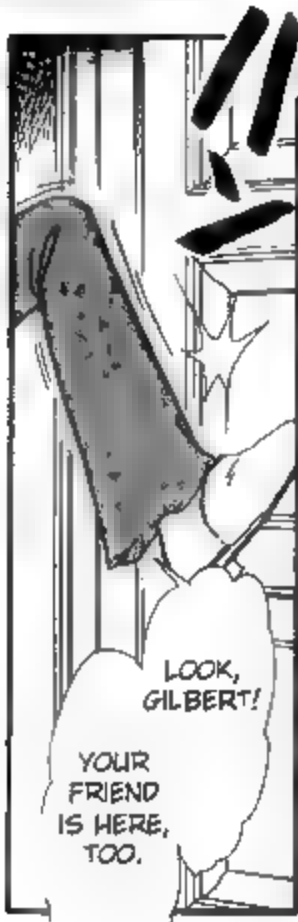

... HEY
WOULD YOU,
LIFT YOUR HEAD FOR ME?

HERE, THESE WILL WARM YOUR HANDS ....
GILBERT, I HAVE SOME ROASTED CHEST-NUTS!



SORRY ABOUT THAT ...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO LEAVE YOU WAITING.
NEVER-THELESS, PLEASE HAVE SOME OF THIS HOT SOUP.

*JPN PRONOUNCIATION IS "RUNO"



...I'M OK...
I HAD SOME SOUP.
SERGE ...
DID YOU GET TO EAT ANY-THING?
IT WAS ALL SO YOU COULD FIND THEM, S.R.
...THIS IS A DISGRACE.
THAT GOD WOULD ABANDON THESE TWO BEAUTIFUL BOYS!

SO IT MAKES SENSE THAT YOU WOULD CHOOSE HIM IN RETURN... IT'S PICTURE PERFECT.
I SEE NOW. YOU'RE THE ONE GILBERT CHOSE...

HAHAHAHA!
HAHA
YOU'RE NOT WRONG!

.....

STILL, IT'S A LOT BETTER THAN GILBERT BEING WITH AUGUSTE.
BUT, A PAINTING IS JUST THAT. IT'S NOT REAL LIFE.

GILBERT ...DON'T SAY THAT!
ANYWAY, AS A DEAR OLD FRIEND OF MINE, FEEL FREE TO STAY HERE AS LONG AS YOU'D LIKE.
MY MY ...
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU.

...THANK YOU. I THOUGHT MAYBE HE WOULD FREEZE ...
DON'T THANK HIM.
BONNARD IS JUST HAPPY THAT I'M HERE.

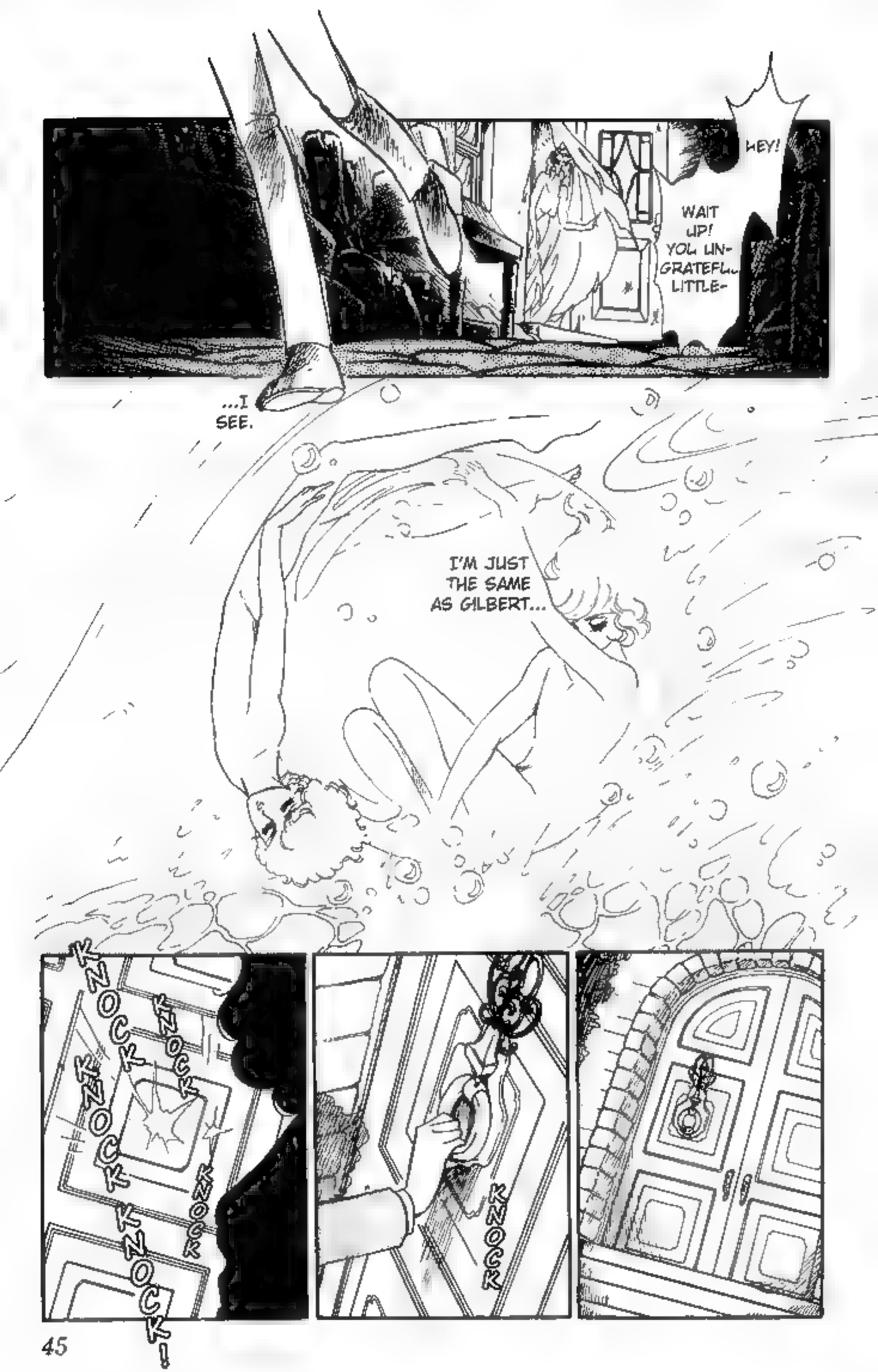
...IT'S ALREADY GONE.
GILBERT, ... HOW IS YOUR WOUND FROM BACK THEN?
OR I JUST CAN'T DISTINGUISH IT FROM ALL THE OTHERS NOW.
ha ha ha ha
YOU HAVE A POINT THERE!
IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL. I BROUGHT IT ON MYSELF.
.....?
MEMORIES FROM A TIME BEFORE I MET GILBERT...

...
HE'S SMILING
...BUT,
BRIGHTLY...
Are you not hungry?
Do you want some bread?
WHAT'S WRONG, SERGE?
COME WITH ME!

I HAVE TO FIND A JOB.
I WAS TOLD THE RENT CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER.
la Biere
SHOULD I TELL YOU,
WHY YOU CAN'T GET A JOB?
HEY!
YOU'LL FIND THINGS MUCH EASIER AFTER-WARDS.
YOU SHOULD LEAVE THAT PRETTY BOY YOU KEEP AROUND.

WE'RE STARTING TO GET A LITTLE IMPATIENT.
WE MIGHT HAVE TO WRAP THINGS UP HERE ...
AGHH!
YOU'RE TOO WEAK TO TRY AND RESIST, BOY.
DON'T MAKE US BREAK YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING!?
THE POLICE ARE COMING!
POOR THING... CAN YOU STAND?
COME INTO MY HOUSE.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.
BY THE WAY... DO YOU ...HAVE ANY MONEY?

BUT THAT'S OK.
MY GOOD-NESS...
YOU DON'T HAVE A SINGLE COIN ON YOU... WHAT A PITY.
.....
18
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
NADA HERE CAN BE KIND.
I DON'T ALWAYS GO AFTER MONEY.
THAT'S A LIE. YOU'RE NO MORE THAN 16... AM I RIGHT?
YOU'RE CLOSING YOUR EYES? ...THAT'S SO CUTE. YOU REALLY ARE JUST 16.
THAT'S OK...I'LL BE GENTLE.
DOES THIS HURT?
IT SHOULDN'T ANYMORE


HEY!
WAIT UP! YOU UN-GRATEFUL LITTLE-
...I SEE.
I'M JUST THE SAME AS GILBERT...
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK!
KNOCK

!
ギラ
...WERE YOU WITH A WOMAN?
BEFORE SEEING GILBERT.
YOU SHOULD WASH IT OFF WITH WATER.
...YOU SMELL OF CHEAP PER-FUME.

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL DAY!?
SERGE!
WE ALL WENT ON A PICNIC THIS AFTER-NOON.
I NEED TO FIND A JOB, EVEN IF IT'S OUT-SIDE OF PARIS, OR WE WON'T BE ABLE TO PAY RENT...
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS...
...I WOULDN'T BLAME THEM IF OUR ROOM HAS ALREADY BEEN SOLD TO SOMEONE ELSE BY NOW.
...
...WILL THIS BE ENOUGH?

.....
IDIOT!
AGAIN, YOU ...
BONNARD GAVE IT TO US.
HE SAID WE CAN DO WHAT WE WANT WITH IT...
HOW DID YOU ...
SERGE!?
EVERY DAY...
...WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
WE USED TO SPEND THAT MUCH
...I'M VERY SORRY!
...HEY THERE! YOU SHOULD'VE COME WITH US EARLIER TODAY.
THE COUNTRY-SIDE IS BEAUTIFUL IN THE WINTER.

I'LL TAKE ONE BILL... BUT I'LL PAY YOU BACK NO MATTER WHAT!
BUT BECAUSE WE'RE IN DIRE NEED OF SOME,
WE'VE DONE NOTHING TO DESERVE THIS MUCH.
YOU GAVE GILBERT THIS MONEY, BUT I MUST RETURN IT.

HE'S READING INTO THINGS TOO MUCH...

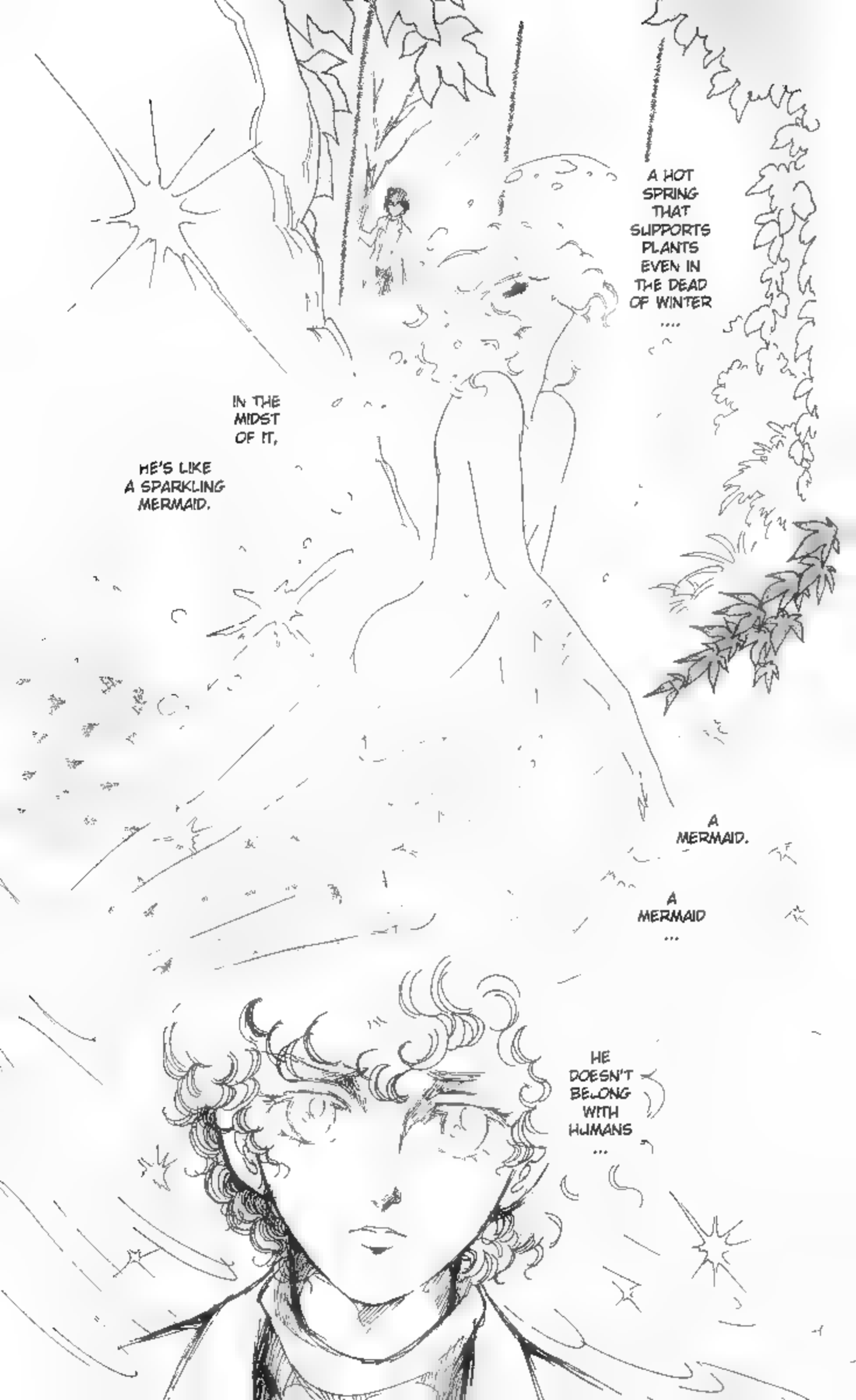
...I'M IN A HURRY NOW, EXCUSE ME!
I'M SORRY IF I'M COMING ACROSS TOO STRONGLY WHILE BEING UNDER YOUR CARE.

VERY SUR-PRISING ...
WHAT AN HONEST YOUNG MAN.
I DIDN'T THINK HE'D ACTUALLY REFUSE IT.

WHY,
WHY IS GILBERT WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM...?
....NO,
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S LIKE THAT.
FLYING LIKE IN THE DREAMS GILBERT TELLS ME ABOUT...
.... COULD IT BE POSSIBLE WITH HIM?
WILL I HAVE TO LET THAT BEAUTIFUL BIRD GO AGAIN...?
IF SO, THEN

... PAT!
SHE'S COME AROUND ABOUT TWO TIMES NOW.
BUT YOU BOYS ARE ALWAYS OUT AND ABOUT!
THIS MONTH'S RENT HAS ALREADY BEEN PAID. CAN'T BELIEVE YOU HAVE TO RELY ON SUCH A BEAUTIFUL GIRL...
My my!
HERE... I KNOW IT'S LATE, BUT HERE IS THIS MONTH'S RENT.
NO MATTER WHAT...
I HAVE TO FIND A JOB.
FOR PAT...!

WITHOUT EVEN TRYING, HE SHOWS OFF TO ME.
...HIS BEAUTY.
HE SHOWS HIS TRUE FORM.
THE WATER'S NICE. ...COME IN!
...WHO IS THAT?
BON-NARD?


A HOT SPRING THAT SUPPORTS PLANTS EVEN IN THE DEAD OF WINTER ....
IN THE MIDST OF IT,
HE'S LIKE A SPARKLING MERMAID.
A MERMAID.
A MERMAID ...
HE DOESN'T BELONG WITH HUMANS ...

"WHY DON'T YOU PUT THIS ON, SERGE?"
"BONNARD WENT THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE TO PREPARE THESE."
IT'S ALL FUTILE...
...I'M NOT CAPABLE OF TURNING HIM INTO A "NORMAL PERSON."
THERE-FORE, IT'D BE BEST...
...IF I LEFT HIM HERE.
IN THIS PALACE THAT PRESERVES HIS FANTASY...

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING YOU'VE DONE.
...I ...
I'M GOING BACK HOME.
SERGE ...!
DID YOU GO OUT ON THAT TRIP WITH EVERY-ONE ...?

I LEAVE GIL-BERT,
IN YOUR CARE ...

SERGE ...!?

THIS ISN'T GOOD.
...TCH! THIS IS FAR TOO FOOLISH, EVEN FOR ME.
WAIT-...
WAIT! WHAT ABOUT GILBERT ...!?
GILBERT HAS BECOME TOO MUCH FOR HIM.
I SHOULD KEEP QUIET AND ACCEPT IT.
...BUT,
GURGU-
THE LOOK ON GILBERT'S FACE, LIKE HE'S ALWAYS WAITING FOR SOME-THING.
TO SEE IT YET AGAIN IS...
SER ...

HE PROBABLY WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND... THE REASONING.
IF HE LEARNED THAT HIS PARTNER LEFT HIM...
I WONDER ...WHAT GILBERT WOULD SAY?

HE WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND THE PAIN SERGE FEELS BY LIVING HERE.
IT'S NATURAL TO HIM THAT THOSE WHO LOVE HIM WILL PUT FORTH ALL KINDS OF TRIBUTES TO HIM.
TO HIM, LOVE IS ABOVE ALL ELSE.

HE'S A YOUNG BOY WHO CAN NEVER GROW UP.
HE ADMIRES SERGE'S EARNESTNESS,
BUT IS INCAPABLE OF IT HIMSELF.
GILBERT DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT TAKES TO SURVIVE ...
...AND THAT'S WHY HE SHINES BRIGHTLY ...
HE'S ALREADY PASSED 16,
BUT LOOKS YOUNG AND HAS A HIGH VOICE.
THAT'S IDEAL FOR ME, BUT...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT GILBERT ...?
HE ISN'T QUALIFIED TO LIVE OUT IN THE WORLD.
YES.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

HE WILL DIE.
...IF LEFT ON HIS OWN.
THAT WAS THE CASE BACK THEN, TOO, BUT NOW HE'S MORE SUBDUED.
THAT'S A BIT HARSH ...
... HAHA
LIVING WELL FOR GILBERT WILL BE NOTHING MORE THAN TORTURE.
THERE-FORE ...
BUT SERGE ISN'T HIS FATHER ...
IT'S A GENUINE WAY OF SHOWING LOVE.
THAT'S SERGE'S WAY OF SHOWING HIS LOVE ...
BUT SERGE IS TRYING TO TEACH GILBERT HOW TO LIVE.

HE
WILL DIE ...!
RE-NAULT ...!
A TRAGEDY FIT FOR A PAINTING, RIGHT?
THAT BOY...
CAN SEE THROUGH MY VERY HEART...
YOU'RE A BEAUTIFUL DEMON.
EVEN IF LIVING IN THIS WORLD IS PAINFUL...
I WANT YOU TO STAY THAT WAY...

....I'LL HIDE THAT PAIN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...
have a seat
THANK YOU ♡
I LOVE YOU, CHEN.
...HM?
WHERE'S SERGE?

DID HE GO OUT TO LOOK FOR A JOB AGAIN?
...OF COURSE! SO WHERE'S SERGE?
I THINK THEY'RE MEANT FOR A WOMAN? AREN'T THEY, CHEN?
YOU LOOK STUNNING IN THOSE CLOTHES ...
This is point-less.
THAT'S SALMON FRESH FROM THE SEA!
WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S ALREADY THREE PLATES!
BON-NARD!
SO HE'S GOING TO COME BACK AGAIN?
FOR A BIT ...?
HE WENT BACK HOME FOR A BIT.
OH, YEAH, SERGE.
... HM?

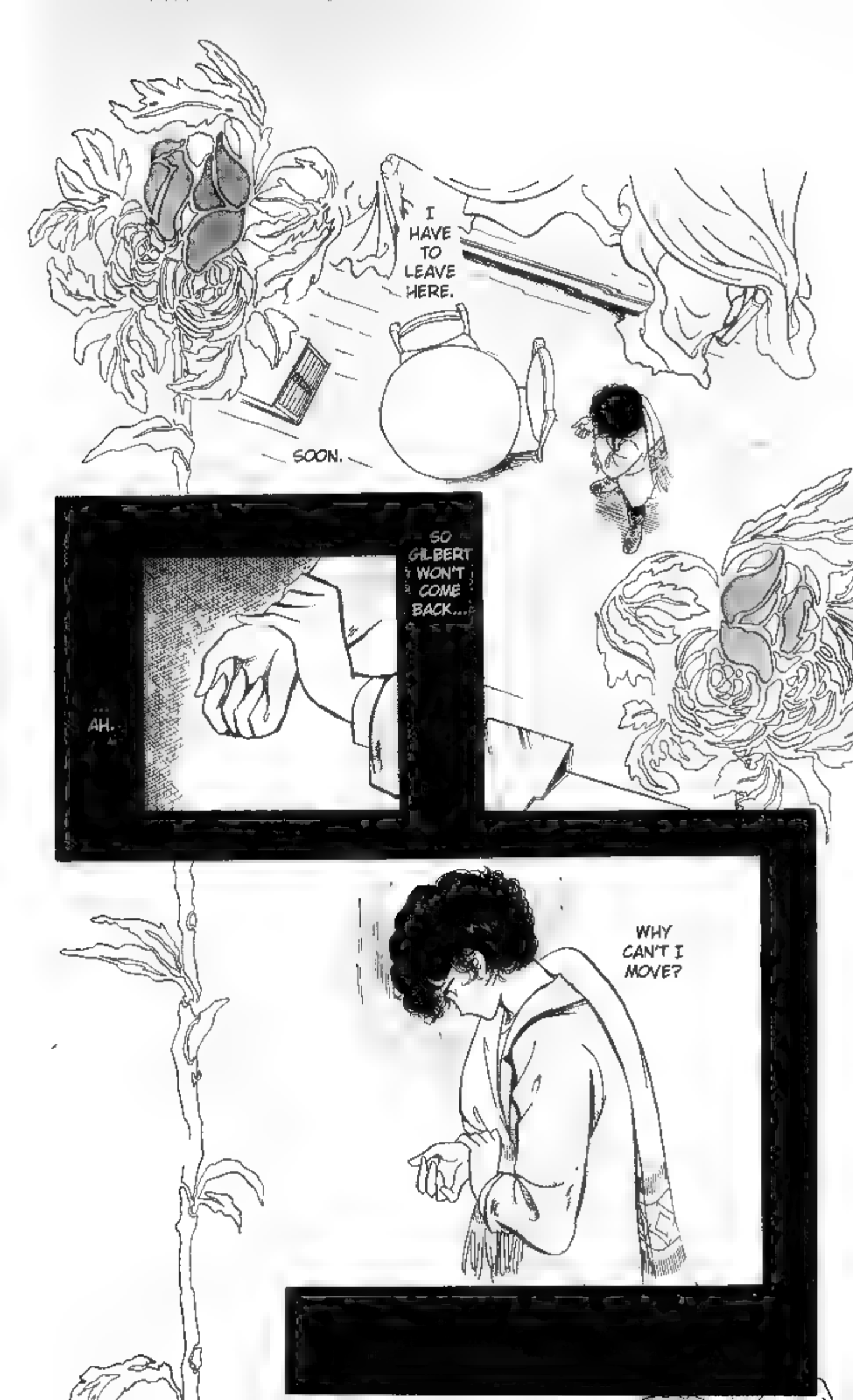
IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
HE'S GOT IT UNDER CON-TROL.
HE DIDN'T SAY.
... YEAH
WHY ...
AFTER ALL,
IF HE ISN'T THERE, THERE'S NO POINT, IS THERE?
HE FOR-GOT SOME-THING. ... HE'S COMING BACK.
NOW, EAT...
IF YOU WANT TO SEE HIM, YOU CAN LEAVE HERE...!
GIL-BERT... DON'T GO AFTER HIM.
YOU'RE A HEAVY BURDEN TO HIM.

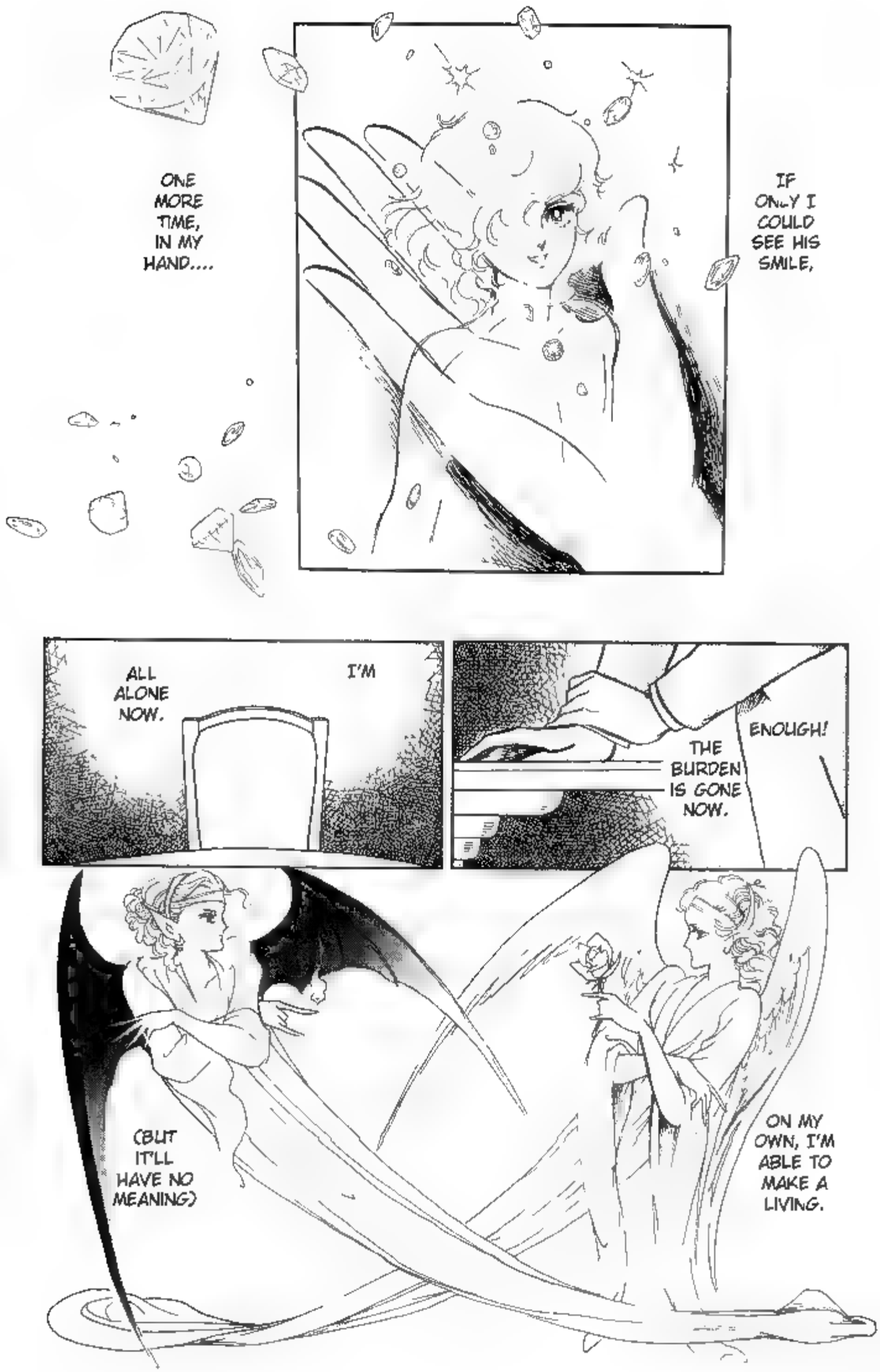
IT'D BE BEST IF YOU WERE TO STAY HERE...
IT'S THE SAME AS HOW YOU CAN'T LIVE AN IMPO-VERISHED LIFE.
SERGE ISN'T THE KIND OF PERSON WHO CAN LIVE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S CARE.
ACK!
CHEN, DROP THE SOUP AND CATCH HIM!
my work

Adieu...
BON-
NARD
...

. . . .
OK, GIL-BERT !?
...IF YOU'RE EVER IN TROUBLE, YOU CAN COME BACK AT ANY TIME!
... HE WON'T COME BACK.
HE'LL NEVER COME BACK HERE AGAIN...
JUST LIKE SERGE DID.
...HE CHOSE TO LEAVE IN THE SAME COAT HE AR-RIVED WITH ...

PERHAPS IT WAS HIS LOVE FOR FREEDOM WHILE TRAPPED IN A CAGE,
THAT MADE HIS FRAGILE BEAUTY SHINE...
GILBERT CAN'T LIVE AS A FREE BIRD....
... NO,
THAT'S THE SECOND TIME,
YOU'VE GRABBED MY HAND.
WILL YOU LEAVE WITHOUT LOOKING BACK...? YES....
EVEN IF BOTH YOUR WINGS HAVE BEEN PLUCKED ...


I HAVE TO LEAVE HERE.
SOON.
SO GILBERT WON'T COME BACK...
AH.
WHY CAN'T I MOVE?


ONE MORE TIME, IN MY HAND....
IF ONLY I COULD SEE HIS SMILE,
ALL ALONE NOW.
I'M
THE BURDEN IS GONE NOW.
ENOUGH!
(BUT IT'LL HAVE NO MEANING)
ON MY OWN, I'M ABLE TO MAKE A LIVING.

(WILL I FIND IT?)
IT'S JUST MEANING-LESS NOW.
I'LL LOOK FOR A NEW ONE.
(THIS WAS POINTLESS. IF ONLY I HAD STAYED AT SCHOOL...!)
I'LL FIND IT.
STOP.
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
ALL MY REGRETS ARE SURGING FORTH.
EVEN THOUGH I SWORE TO NEVER REGRET MY DECISION ...!

THROW IT ALL AWAY, AND...
BUT I MUST THROW AWAY EVERY-THING.
I DON'T WANT TO,
...NOW
I HAVE TO LEAVE. EVEN AGAINST MY OWN WILL.

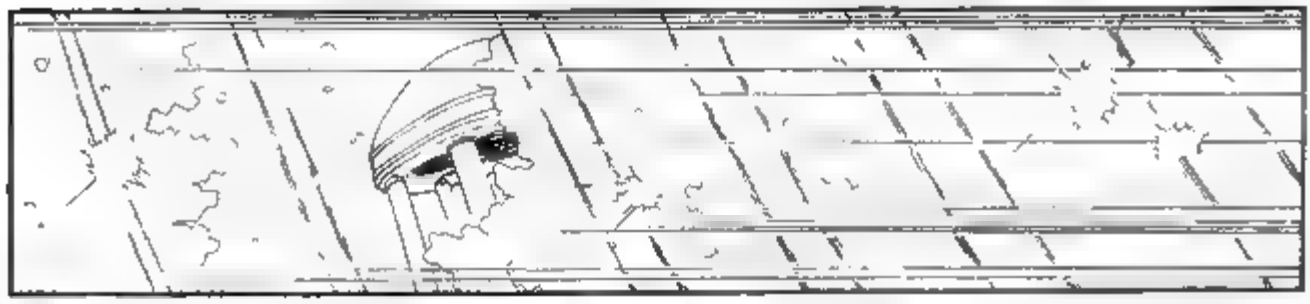
カ
カ
カ
...IS THAT...?
SERGE ...
カチャ!

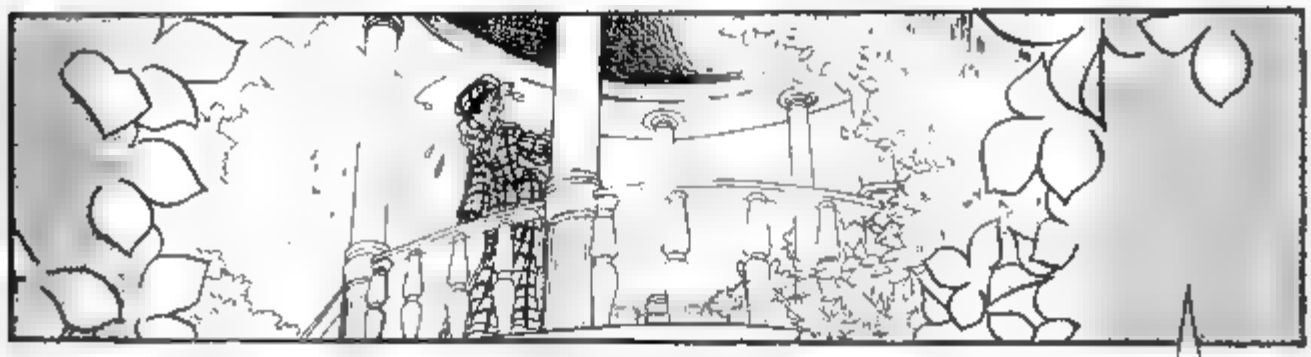
AGAIN AND AGAIN...
I'm sorry. I thought you were having fun.
why did you leave without me...?
IT STARTS OVER
how fun without you there?
IT ISN'T THAT I'M NOT HAPPY,
BUT AGAIN,
THE BATTLE BEGINS.
THE BATTLE BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE.

ok.
BUT IT'S ALSO THE BEGINNING OF GILBERT'S ISOLATION.
TOMOR-ROW I'LL FIND A JOB...
I'LL TRY MY BEST, GILBERT. ... TOMOR-ROW
I KNOW THIS, BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO...
I'M EVERYTHING TO GILBERT
DARNIN'S SAYING WE HAVE TO CHANGE OUR METHODS.
HM?
HE SAID TO GIVE THE GYPSY A JOB.
...DID YOU CONFIRM WITH THE MANAGER?
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE RETURNED.
YES.

I'LL PAY HER BACK FIRST AND FORE-MOST.

...IF PAT IS STILL WAITING AT THAT PARK,





...SERGE!

SER ...

PAT ....

...I THOUGHT YOU WERE NEVER GOING TO COME BACK.
...I'M SORRY. I WAS JUST... SO HAPPY...

YOU BEAT ME TO THE PUNCH ...
WE DON'T WANT TO CAUSE YOU ALL THIS TROUBLE.
TO BE HONEST I WAS THINKING OF MOVING OUT.

!!!

PLEASE... DON'T EVER MOVE OUT WITHOUT TELLING ME.
YOU'RE AN HONEST PERSON, AREN'T YOU SERGE?

I LOVE YOU... SERGE.
....I
.....
...I KNOW IT WAS INTRUSIVE OF ME, BUT...
I FIGURED YOU WOULD KEEP COMING TO SEE ME IF I DID.
...GIRLS ARE SO SENSITIVE ...
PAT..! STOP THIS.
I SHOULDN'T BE HEARING THESE KINDS OF THINGS FROM YOU...
BEFORE I HAD CONFESSED IN FRONT OF GILBERT
I WON'T GET BETWEEN YOU AND GILBERT WHEN HE'S AROUND.
BUT... DON'T WORRY.
I...KNOW HOW IMPORTANT GILBERT IS TO YOU RIGHT NOW...
BUT, I JUST WANTED TO SAY IT ONLY ONCE.
... FORGIVE ME.
IT'S OK, EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE ME.

NOW... ENOUGH ABOUT THAT!
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU.
IT'S DISGRACEFUL, BUT...
I WANT TO HOLD YOU!
PAT ...
I WAS SO EXCITED, I JUST HAD TO SHOW YOU, SERGE...!
I'VE BECOME FRIENDS WITH ALL THE PEOPLE PICTURED HERE, AND I'VE BEEN ALLOWED TO DO AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CAMERAMAN!
...IT'S A COLLECTION OF PHOTOS OF WORKING WOMEN.
...BUT PAT, YOU'RE DOING WELL.
AS LONG AS YOU WORK TOWARDS YOUR DREAMS,
YOU CAN FLY AWAY ...!
WOMEN ARE GAINING THEIR FREEDOM.
THEY'RE BEING RELEASED FROM THE CONFINES OF CONSERVATIVE CLOTHING AND HOME-LIFE.

SERGE ...?

カチャ

YOUR GLOOMY DAYS WILL BECOME A LOT EASIER.
WE'RE GONNA GIVE YOU A MEDICINE TO MAKE YOUR BOREDOM EASIER TO HANDLE.
WE'LL BE GENTLE.

SHH... DON'T LET HIM MAKE ANY NOISES.
THE WALLS ARE THIN HERE. WE DON'T WANT THE NEIGHBORS TO HEAR.

...YOU MUST BE AWFULLY TIRED, SERGE.
YOU'RE ALWAYS RESTING YOUR BODY AGAINST SOME-THING.
GEEZ, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU NOTICE THE THINGS YOU DO.
HOW IS GILBERT?
HE SEEMS TO BE DOING WELL.
BUT HE'S AWFULLY DEPRESSED... AND IT'S HARD GETTING HIM TO EAT.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STARTING TO GET SICK.

SERGE ...!

IT'S JUST BEEN MAKING ME REALLY SAD. BUT, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT.

IT'S ROUGH WHEN I HAVE TO GO OUT.

HE GETS IRRITATED AND BREAKS THINGS...

BUT IN THE MORNING, HE'LL QUICKLY WAKE ME UP AND START APOLOGIZING ...

HAVE YOU GIVEN UP,

TRYING TO MAKE GILBERT LIVE LIKE A HUMAN?

OR HAVE YOU JUST GOTTEN USED,

TO GILBERT'S CONSTANT DISSATIS-FACTION AND HIS DEMANDS OF YOU...

にまあ
SHE'S BECOME SUCH A FINE YOUNG WOMAN.
WE OUGHT TO START TALKING ABOUT MARRIAGE PROPOSALS.
RIGHT, HONEY?
OOF
I CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH.
I'M HOME!
SIR, MADAM.
"YOUR DEAR PAT NEEDS YOUR HELP ..."
"DEAR PASCAL"
"PLEASE HELP."
"I KNOW YOU ARE WORKING HARD TO STUDY FOR YOUR BACCALAUREAT,"
"BUT PLEASE COME HERE FOR SERGE'S SAKE."
"HE WOULD NEVER ASK FOR HELP ON HIS OWN."
"EVEN IF THIS IS INTERFERENCE ON MY PART, I BEG YOU."

HAS IT ALREADY BEEN A MONTH...? HMM....
...SURPRISINGLY, YOU HAVEN'T PUT UP ANY RESISTANCE.
EH, BOY?
IT'S LIKE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IT.
DON'T WORRY. IT LOOKS NORMAL AT A GLANCE. JUST USE WHAT AMOUNT IS EFFECTIVE.
HERE'S ENOUGH FOR FOUR TO FIVE DAYS.
...IF YOU WANT, WE'LL GIVE YOU MORE.
AFTER THAT, YOU CAN COME TO DARNINI'S PLACE...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GONNA GET A NEW FRIEND, PICCOLO.

IT'S A GOOD WAY FOR AN IDIOT LIKE ME, TO FAMILIARIZE MYSELF WITH IT, SINCE I WASN'T PLANNING ON TAKING IT ORIGINALLY.
...THE BACCALAUREATE IS COMING UP SOON.
I'M A YEAR EARLY, BUT I PLAN ON TAKING IT.
EVEN IF IT'S A NIGHT AT PARIS!
JUST MISSING OUT ON ONE NIGHT PAINS ME.
SO BECAUSE OF THAT, I'VE BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT STUDYING.
I WAS JUST LOOKING AT HOW NICE AND TIDY YOUR HOTEL IS....
HUH ....? OH, NOTHING.
BUT WHATEVER, SIT DOWN. ... TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG.

...REALLY? IT WAS THIS NICE?
...HE MUST'VE BEEN HAVING A HARD LIFE HERE.
IT'S NOT THAT GREAT. IT'S THE SAME AS OUR DORM ROOMS.

...I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN...!
I'M GLAD YOU CAME.
ANY-WAY! ...IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

...PAS-CAL...!

BUT YOU'RE ALSO LOSING WEIGHT.
NO, YOU'RE EMACIATED.
MUST BE ALL THE MANUAL LABOR.
... YOU'VE GOTTEN QUITE BIG...
PAT WAS CRYING TO ME... ABOUT HOW YOUR PIANO-PLAYING HANDS ARE GETTING TORN UP.
GILBERT HAS BEEN GETTING SICK A LOT, THOUGH, AND WON'T GET ANY BETTER NO MATTER WHAT I TRY...
SAME AS EVER, YOU DON'T MINCE WORDS ...!
BUT I'M FINE, AS YOU CAN SEE.
QUIT TRYING TO ACT TOUGH IN FRONT OF ME.
YOU'RE MALNOURISHED AND YOUR GAZE IS UNSTEADY.

WE ALL MADE A HUGE MISTAKE,
LETTING YOU TWO RUN AWAY ...!
. WE DON'T HAVE TIME I'M GONNA HAVE TO SAY SOME THINGS THAT'LL RUB YOU THE WRONG WAY
I WAS CALLED HERE BY PAT SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU AND GILBERT
THAT'S WHY I HELPED ...
I BELIEVED THAT AUGUSTE WOULD CERTAINLY CATCH YOU.
AT THE TIME, I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO GET AWAY WITH IT.
BECAUSE HE HELPED YOU TWO RUN AWAY, CARL RECEIVED A DEVASTATING BLOW TO HIS REPUTATION THAT HE STILL HASN'T RECOVERED FROM.
EVEN CARL THOUGHT THE SAME WAY.
PAS-CAL!
YOU REALLY ...!

BUT HE HAD SUCH AMAZING GRADES!!
WHY ...?
FOR REPEN-TANCE.
HE ISN'T GOING TO COLLEGE ANYMORE. HE'LL BE TRANS-FERRING TO A SEMINARY.
... BECAUSE ...OF US....
... THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME.
HE'LL ENTRUST HIS FATE TO THE HANDS OF GOD AND FIND PEACE.
IT'S AN IN-CHARACTER RESPONSE TO HIS OWN GUILT.
THAT EVENT... WAS A MAJOR TURNING POINT.
CARL ...!

TO LEAVE HIM.
YOU NEED ...
.....
.....
...THAT'S ALL I COULD THINK OF ON MY WAY HERE.
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY THAT CAN SAVE YOU TWO ...
.... OH
BUT,
PASCAL, ON HIS OWN, GILBERT WILL....
THE REALITY OF THE SITUATION IS THAT YOU GUYS ARE ON THE WRONG PATH.
WE WERE ALL WRONG.
I NEVER WANT TO HEAR ...
THAT ONE THING ...!
PAS.. CAL.

IF THINGS CONTINUE AS THEY ARE NOW, IT'LL BE THE END OF HIM.
YOU NEED TO FREE HIM...
BUT HE JUST... CHASED AFTER ME.
EVEN I THOUGHT OF THAT ...
...AN ACQUAINTANCE.
PAT TOLD ME THAT HE HAS AN ACQUAINTANCE HERE IN PARIS.
HE HIMSELF HAS A SOLUTION TO THAT.
SERGE ...
YOU THINK GILBERT'S FRAGILITY... IS MY FAULT ...!?
HE WILL JUST SUFFER, UNFULFILLED!
THE LOVE THAT HE WANTS IS MORE THAN YOU CAN EVER GIVE.
DON'T BE SO CONCEITED!

I'M TELLING YOU THIS BECAUSE YOU ARE MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN GILBERT!
YOU NEED TO STOP WITH THE FAN-TASY!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE EVERYONE NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY.
PAS-CAL ...!
IF YOU DON'T COME BACK NOW, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO-
YOUR PIANO,
COL-LEGE
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
I CAN'T STAND BY ANYMORE AND WATCH YOU STRAY FROM YOUR TRUE CALLINGS...
PLEASE STOP ...
STOP ... THAT'S ENOUGH

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRY TO STOP IT...
IS SCREAM-ING.
... MY BODY
UGH
... UH
hah
NO MORE...
hah
hah..
hah
THERE'S NO MORE LEFT...

STOP BY ANY-TIME. WE'LL GIVE YOU AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.
...I NEED IT!
ガク
ガク
ビクッ!
DON'T WORRY ...
I'M PICCOLO FROM DARNINI'S PLACE...
HEH HEH HEH ...

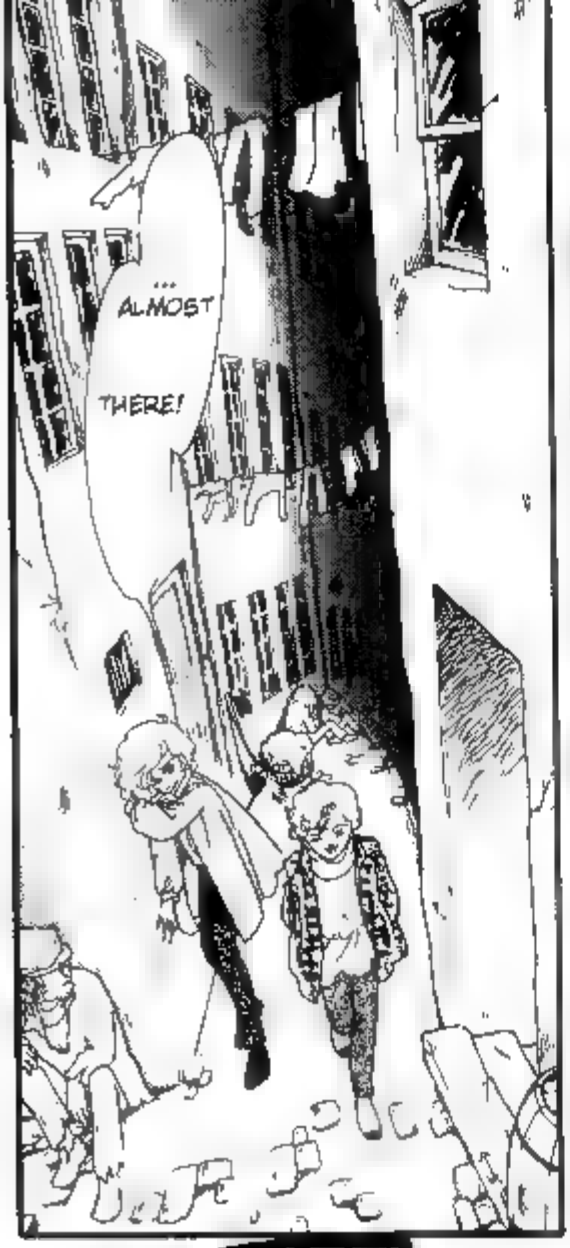
GET... OUT...!
AH ...
GH ...
HEH HEH HEH ...
IT'S ONLY HALF A DAY'S WORTH, THOUGH ...
Y'SEE THIS? THIS WAS GIVEN TO ME ...
AFTER THIS, YOU'LL HAVE TO COME TO DARNIN'S PLACE.

MY HEAD IS FOGGY.
HERE YOU GO...
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO WAIT THIS OUT NOW...
... COME HERE.
IT'LL STOP THE TREMB-LING.
WHEN BEING TOLD THIS...
HOW COULD I FOLLOW HIM
... FOLLOW ME. I'LL SHOW YOU TO DARNINI.
I ASSUME WE...
CAN'T SEE GIL-BERT?

PASCAL IS MAKING A JOKE BECAUSE THE VERB HE USES FOR "FIGURE OUT" AND "TAKE CARE OF" IS THE SAME- 片づく -WHICH CAN MEAN EITHER "TO RESOLVE" OR TO "MARRY SOMEONE OFF" SO LITERAL TRANSLATION IS "WHEN EVERYTHING IS 片づく'D, THERE'LL STILL BE ONE MORE PERSON THAT WANTS TO BE 片づく'D"

IT'S GETTING TO BE THAT TIME FOR HER SOON. MOTHER IS TALKING ABOUT IT
AND THE COUPLE SHE LIVES WITH HAVE BEGUN PESTERING HER ABOUT IT
father pretty much feels the same way.
...I SEE.
AND I WANT YOU TO BE THE ONE!
HOW'S THAT SOUND?
AND SHE FEELS THE SAME.
I UNDER-STAND.
... WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THIS NOW?
... BUT I CAN'T DEAL WITH THAT RIGHT NOW.
BUT I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND... PASCAL.
DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID? ABOUT HER FEELING THE SAME?
C'MON!

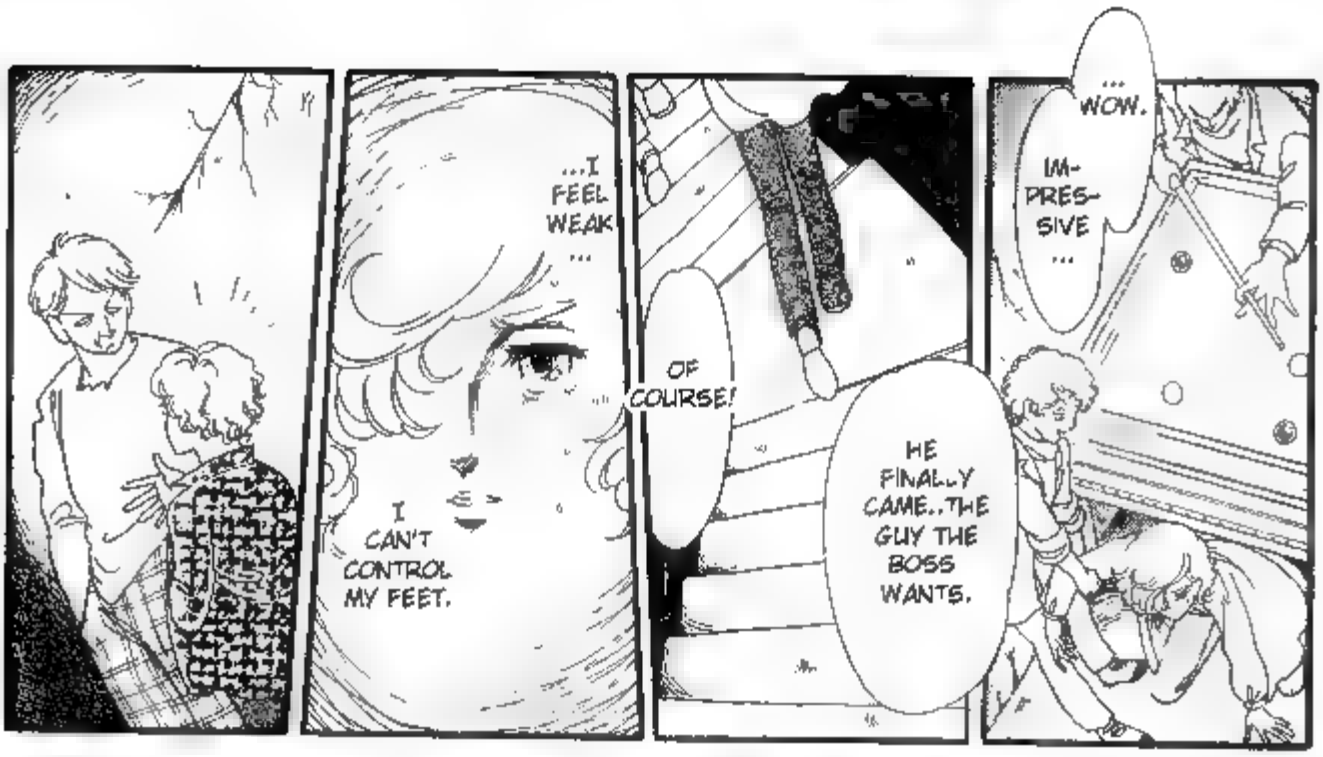
THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME...
SERGE.
DON'T YOU GET IT?
...YOU CAN'T HAVE BOTH.
YOU GOTTA PICK ONE.
I'M ...
GILBERT HAS GOTTEN...
BEYOND YOUR CONTROL.
IT'S YOUR CHOICE.
... SERGE.
SAYING THIS FOR GILBERT'S SAKE, TOO.


... ALMOST THERE!

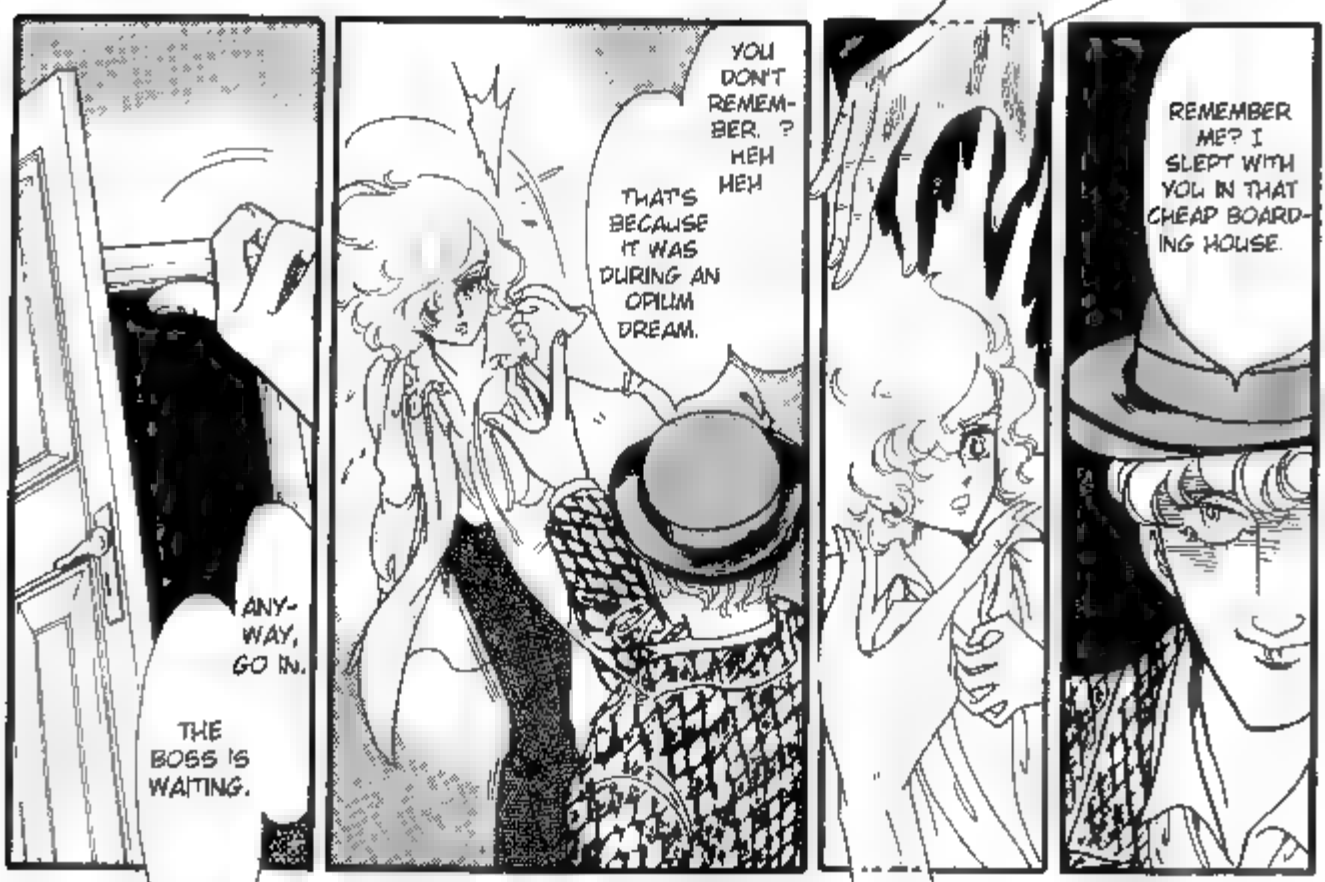
... WITH-DRAW-ING AL-READY?
THAT WAS FAST.

Ah

I WONDER IF IT'S CAUSE THEY WANT YOU THAT BADLY OR BECAUSE OF HOW STUBBORN YOU'VE BEEN? HEH HEH HEH ...
THOSE GUYS, THEY REALLY DID A GOOD JOB GETTING YOU HOOKED.


...I FEEL WEAK ...
I CAN'T CONTROL MY FEET.
OF COURSE!
HE FINALLY CAME..THE GUY THE BOSS WANTS.
... WOW.
IM-PRES-SIVE ...

HEY ...


ANY-WAY, GO IN.
THE BOSS IS WAITING.
YOU DON'T REMEM-BER. ? HEH HEH
THAT'S BECAUSE IT WAS DURING AN OPIUM DREAM.
REMEMBER ME? I SLEPT WITH YOU IN THAT CHEAP BOARD-ING HOUSE.

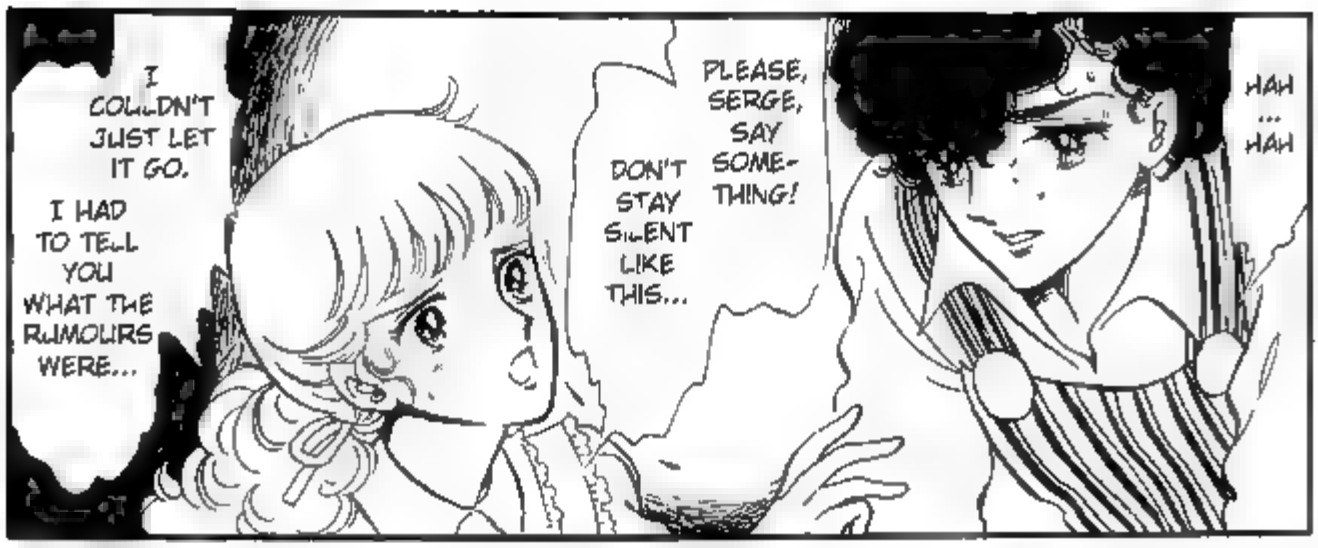
WHY DID I COME HERE?
I WANT TO GO HOME.
...WHY?
...WHY?
WHAT ARE YOU MUTTERING ABOUT?
...NOW.
ACCEPT YOUR FATE AND COME OVER HERE...
HEH HEH ...
HEH HEH HEH
HAHAHA
HAHAHA
HAHAHA

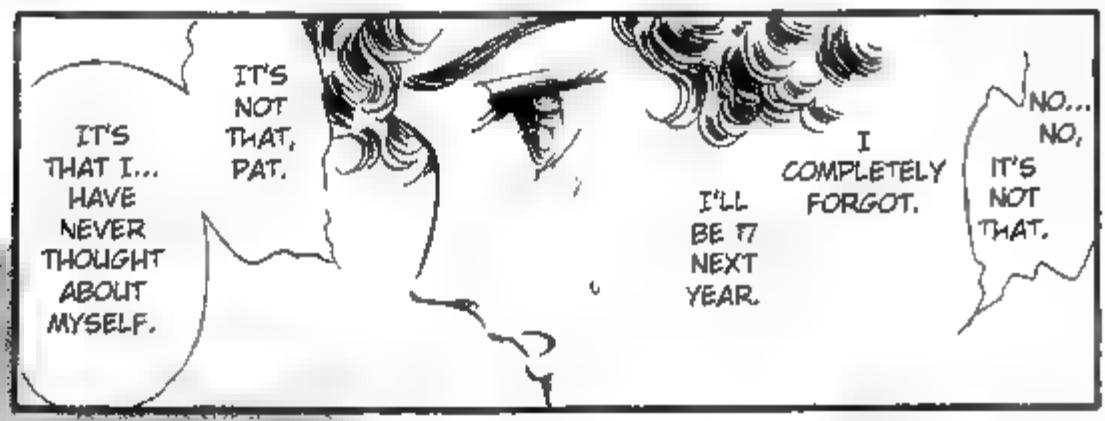
YES, SIR.
LOCK THE DOOR AND GET OUT.
HOW-
HOW DARE YOU...!
YOU'LL BE BEGGING FOR IT... YOU'LL DO ANYTHING FOR IT...
YOU'LL WANT THAT DRUG SO BADLY,
IF YOU WANT, WE CAN WAIT 2 OR 3 MORE HOURS.
NO!
LET ME GO...
MY BEAUTI-FUL,
PRIMA-VERA ...
... YOU'RE THE ONE THAT CAME HERE.
THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WHO'LL WANT TO LOVE YOU.
THAT'LL BE YOUR NAME WHEN I SELL YOU.
IT'S A NICE NAME, PRIMA-VERA.

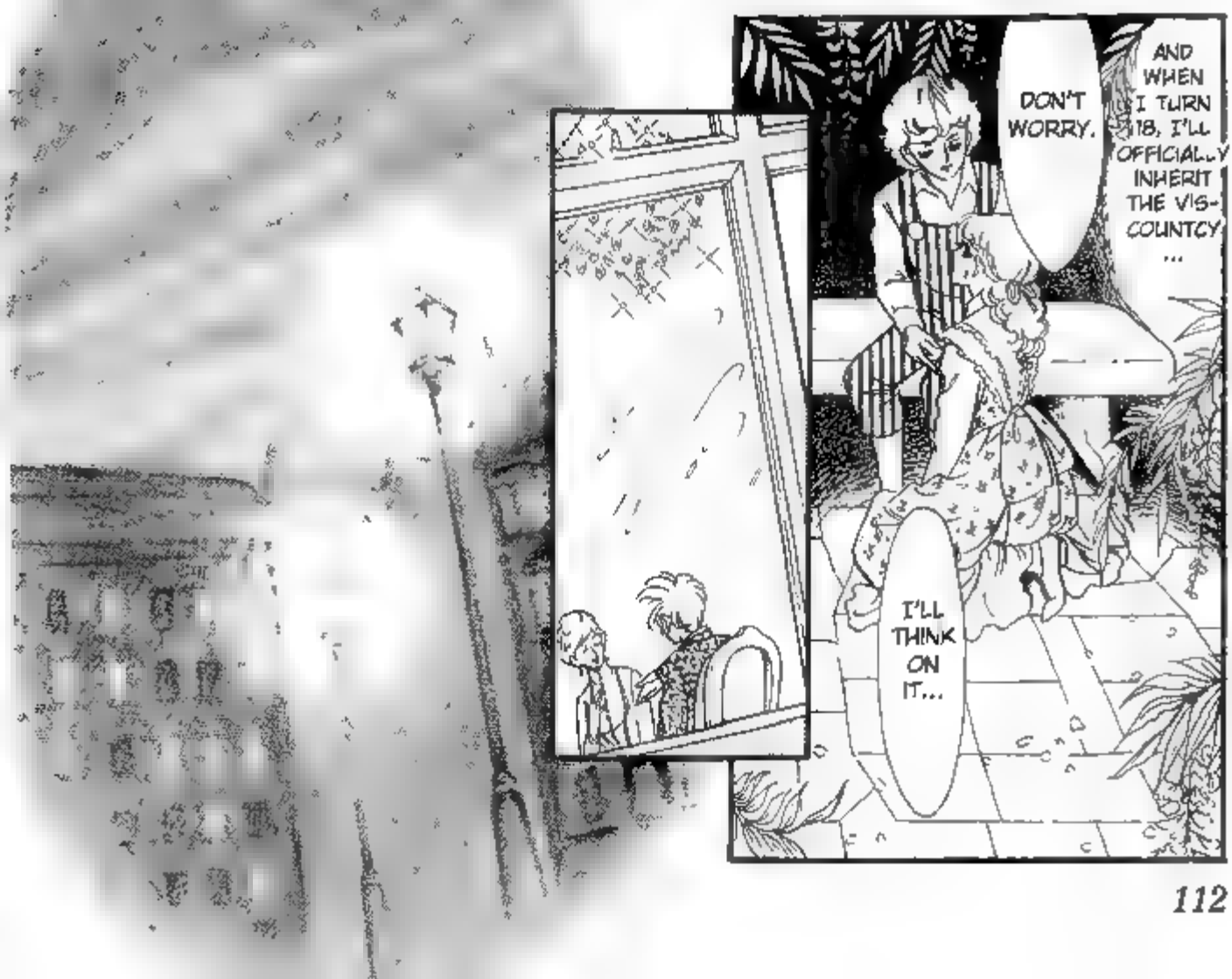
RÉCEPTION
I'M SURE GRANDMA TOLD HIM TO BRING UP MARRIAGE.
ザワ ザワ
SHALL WE GO OUT TO THE GARDEN, SERGE...?
MY BROTHER WILL TAKE A WHILE, TALKING TO MY HOST-FAMILY.
SERGE... HAVE YOU... CUT TIES WITH YOUR FAMILY COMPLETELY...?
Y... YES.
LIVING WITH OTHERS CAN BE SUCH A PAIN!
MY FATHER MUST BE PAST FIFTY.
PASCAL WILL HAVE TO INHERIT HIS ROLE AS THE PATRIARCH SOON.
THAT MEANS YOUR AUNT IS MANAGING THE VISCOUNTCY, THEN?
... WHY?
...I THINK SO.
I... DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT ARISTO-CRATIC LIFE...
BUT,
PAT ...!
DON'T YOU HAVE TO RETURN HOME...?

...
WELL, I...
HEARD A RUMOUR ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.
THIS IS A STRANGE THING FOR YOU TO BE WORRIED ABOUT.
MY HOST FAMILY HAS CONNECTIONS TO THE HIGHER CLASS... AND THEY SAID THIS IN FRONT OF ME.
THE VISCOUNTCY DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE LINE OF SUCCESSION SINCE THEIR CURRENT HEAD HAS GONE MISSING
THE VIS-COUNTCY ...!
YOU'VE INHERITED YOUR TITLE FROM YOUR FATHER. ISN'T THAT IMPOR-TANT TO YOU ...!?
I DIDN'T WANT TO MENTION IT, SERGE ...!
BUT ISN'T THIS SOMETHING IMPORTANT THAT YOU'VE FORGOTTEN TO CONSIDER ...!?

AND ANGE-LIN...
MY AUNT IS ILL
I ALSO HEARD THAT THE LEGAL GUARDIAN HAS FALLEN ILL...
THAT'S WHY... I WAS...
AND DEALT A DE-VAS-TATING BLOW TO MY AUNT.
IT WAS AU-GUS-TE, WHO CUT OFF HIS EN-GAGE-MENT,
AUGUSTE WAS THE ONE THAT STARTED HIS ENGAGE-MENT WITH ANGELIN...
SO IT WASN'T ONLY TO TORMENT GILBERT.
... SERGE!
... EVEN NOW,
EVEN NOW IT AFFECTS ME... IN SUCH A LAST-ING WAY!

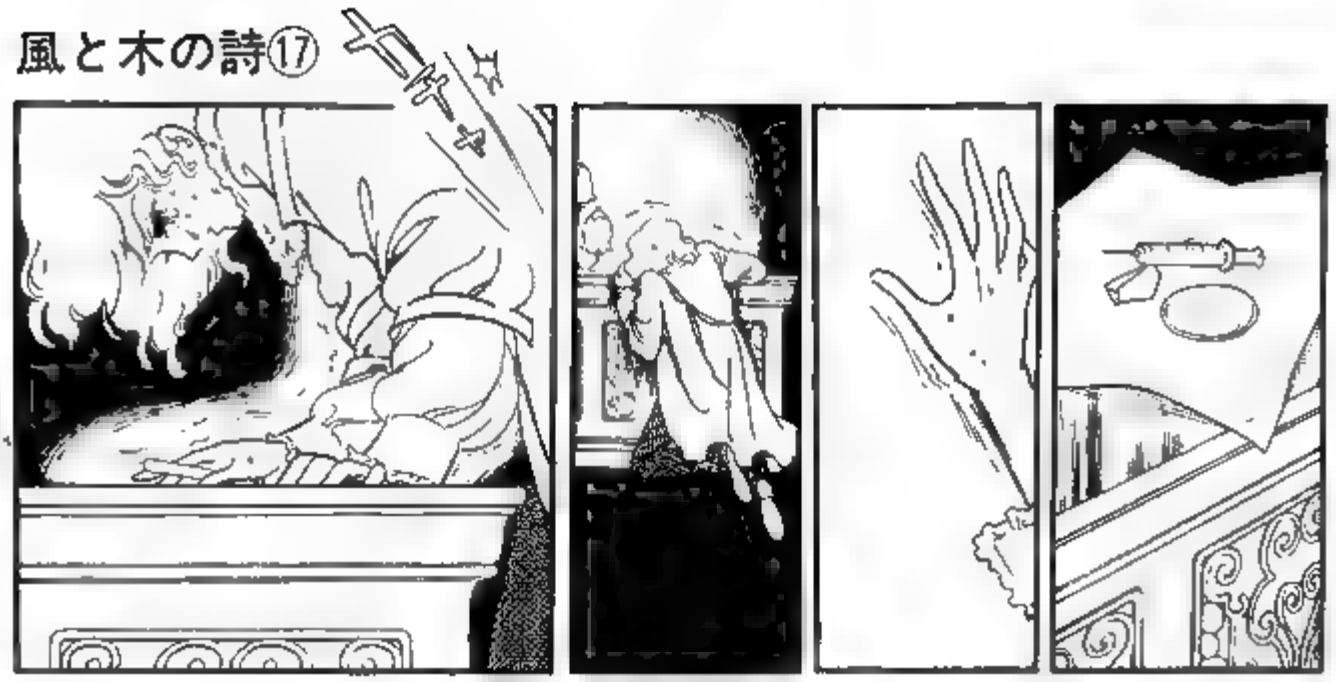

I COULDN'T JUST LET IT GO.
I HAD TO TELL YOU WHAT THE RUMOURS WERE...
DON'T STAY SILENT LIKE THIS...
PLEASE, SERGE, SAY SOMETHING!
HAH ... HAH


IT'S THAT I... HAVE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT MYSELF.
IT'S NOT THAT, PAT.
I'LL BE 17 NEXT YEAR.
I COMPLETELY FORGOT.
NO... NO, IT'S NOT THAT.

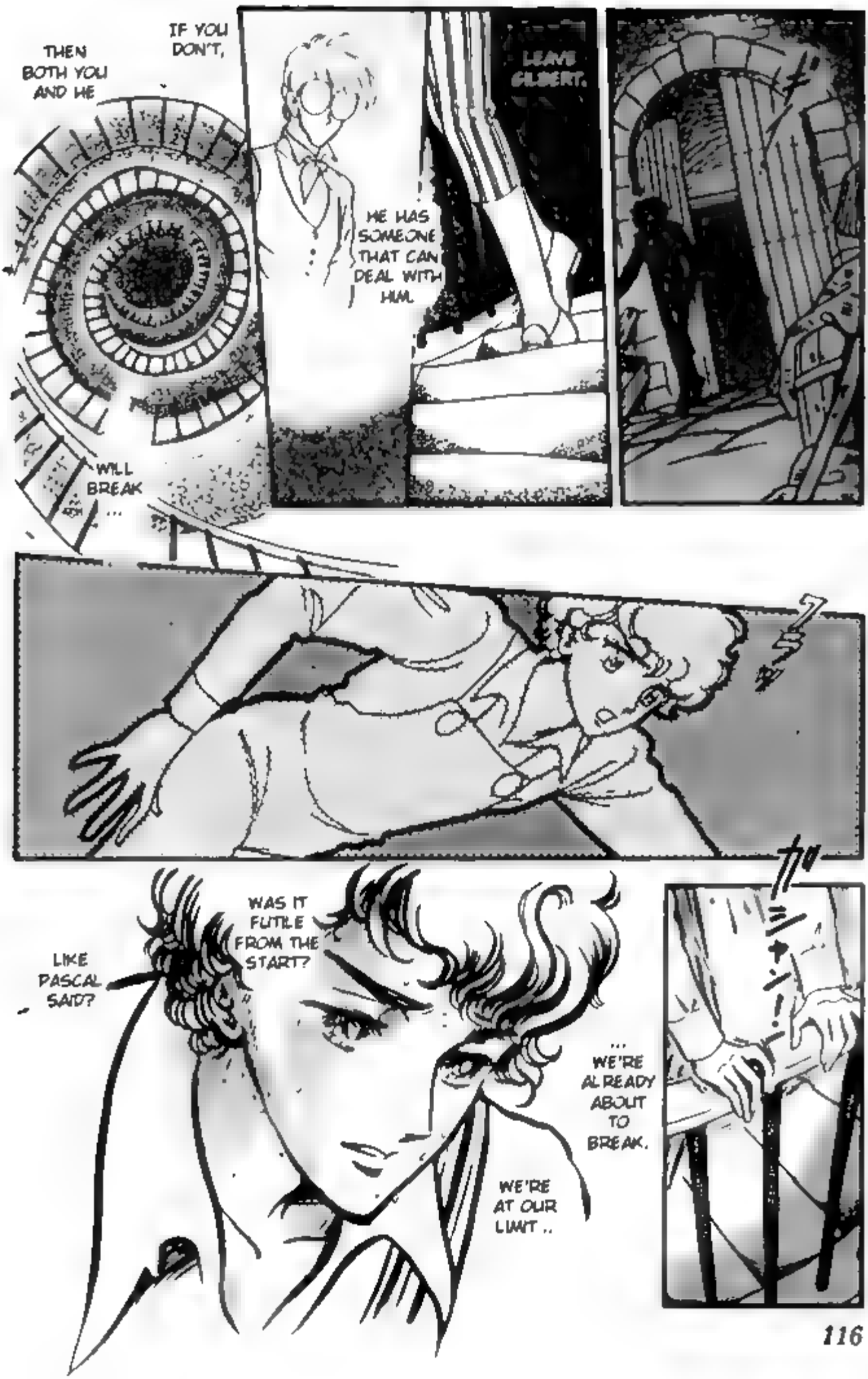

DON'T WORRY.
AND WHEN I TURN 18, I'LL OFFICIALLY INHERIT THE VISCOUNTCY ...
I'LL THINK ON IT...

ハッ
YOU'LL GET USED TO IT... IN NO TIME.
ONCE THE PAIN GOES AWAY, YOU'LL TAKE ON CUSTOMERS HERE TONIGHT.
NO.
SOUNDS SIMPLE, DOESN'T IT...?
IT'S NOTHING TOO DIFFI-CULT.
JUST PUT YOUR ARMS OUT AND LOWER YOUR HEAD...
NO NEED FOR THAT STUBBORN-NESS WE'VE BEEN GETTING FROM YOU.
EVEN YOU UNDER-STAND THAT NOW, RIGHT?
...GH!
AH!

PRIMA-VERA.
IF YOU TAKE IT, IT'LL BE THE SAME AS YOU SAYING YES.
LEAVE HIM. HE'LL USE IT HIMSELF.
TSK!
TOO MUCH.
...IT'S TOO MUCH.
THIS ...
WHY?



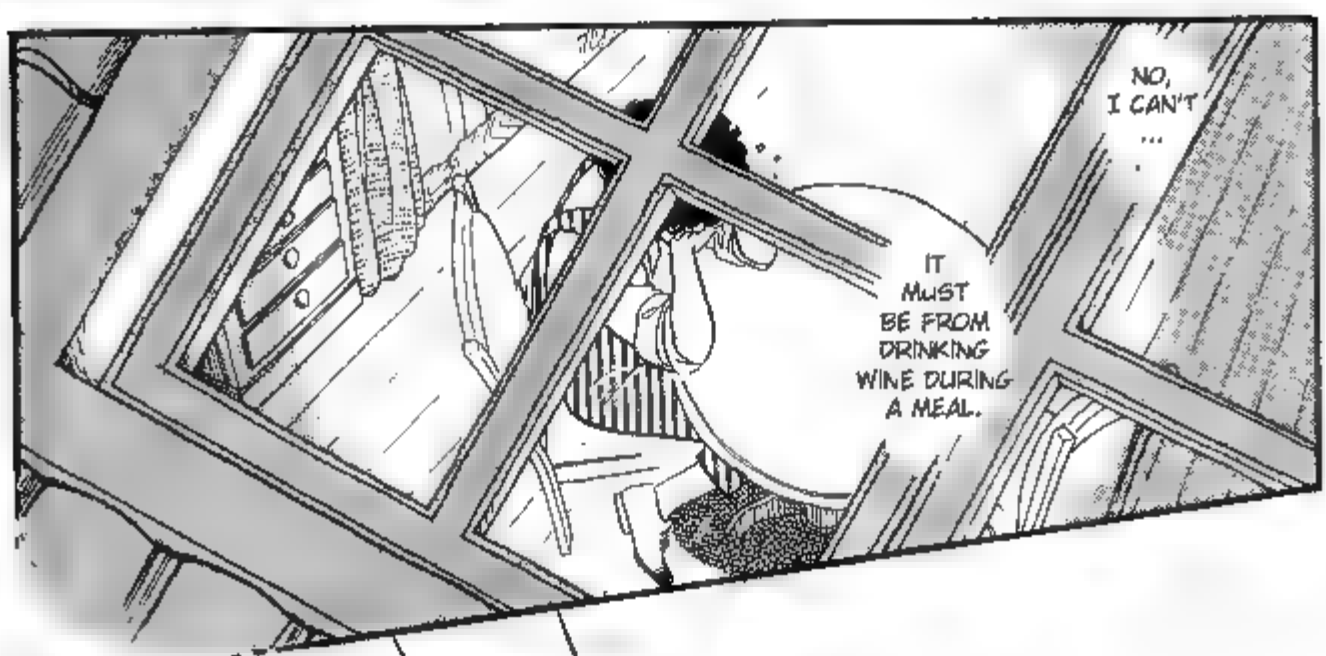
I'LL HELP YOU...
YOU'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER AFTER ...
HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH


THEN BOTH YOU AND HE
IF YOU DON'T,
LEAVE GILBERT.
HE HAS SOMEONE THAT CAN DEAL WITH HIM.
WILL BREAK ...
LIKE PASCAL SAID?
WAS IT FUTILE FROM THE START?
... WE'RE ALREADY ABOUT TO BREAK.
WE'RE AT OUR LIMIT ..

GIL-BERT ...?
COULD IT BE...
THAT HE HAS TO BE WITH AUGUSTE ...?
GIL ...!
GIL-BERT! ...ARE YOU THERE?
HE'S THERE ...!
BUT HE'S DRUNK AND ASLEEP.
HE DIDN'T EVEN RECOGN ZE ME!
TRIED TO KISS ME, HE DID.
HERE'S THE KEY!
PRO-BABLY THOUGHT I WAS YOU.
WHY ... WHAT HAP-PENED?
I DUNNO.
MUST'VE SPENT ALL HIS MONEY ON BOOZE TO DRINK.

...GIL-BERT.
ARE YOU AWAKE, GILBERT...?
GIL...
...IS THIS REALLY ALL FROM DRINK-ING!?
GIL-BERT!
IT'S LIKE HE'S DREAMING WITH HIS EYES OPEN...
...MAYBE?
IS HE DRUNK?
...SOME-THING'S WRONG...
.....?

OR SHOULD I CALL A DOCTOR ...?
WILL HE BE FINE ON HIS OWN?
...I DON'T GET IT.
HE USUALLY HOLDS HIS ALCOHOL REALLY WELL.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM THIS DRUNK BEFORE.


NO, I CAN'T ...
IT MUST BE FROM DRINKING WINE DURING A MEAL.

THE PATHS ARE STARTING TO DIVERGE FOR THE TWO.
BUT, THEIR HEARTS, WHICH HAD SEPARATED,
THEY MIGHT SOMETIMES MOVE IN TIME WITH EACH OTHER OR EVEN INTERSECT.
GO BACK TO HOW THEY WERE.
WILL NEVER

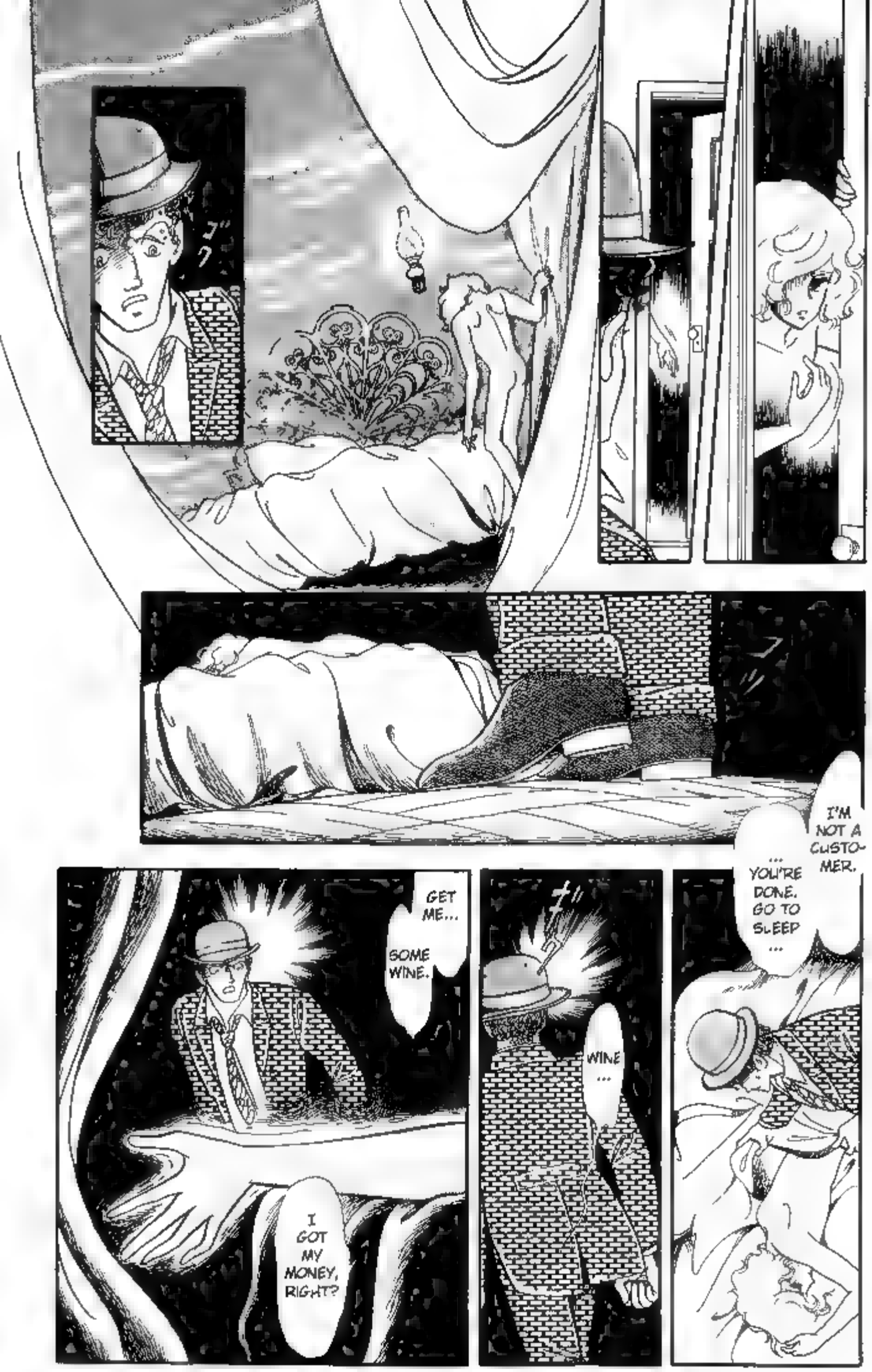
SEE YOU LATER!
... PAS-CAL!
BE CAREFUL, BROTHER.
AND I LEAVE PAT IN YOUR CARE ...!
YOU HAVE A MOUNTAIN OF ISSUES TO WORK ON, BUT IT'S ALL IN YOUR HANDS.
BRO-THER ...!
PAT! KEEP AN EYE ON SERGE FOR ME.
PAS-CAL!
WHOA!

カッ
ゴーダ
ゴーダガ
GOOD LUCK!
ABOUT GILBERT.
...I DIDN'T THINK HE WOULD SAY THOSE KINDS OF THINGS TO YOU.
...YOU LOOK SAD, SERGE.
.....
HE DID GIVE SOME GOOD ADVICE ...THE KIND NO ONE ELSE COULD GIVE.
I THOUGHT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SOME GOOD ADVICE...

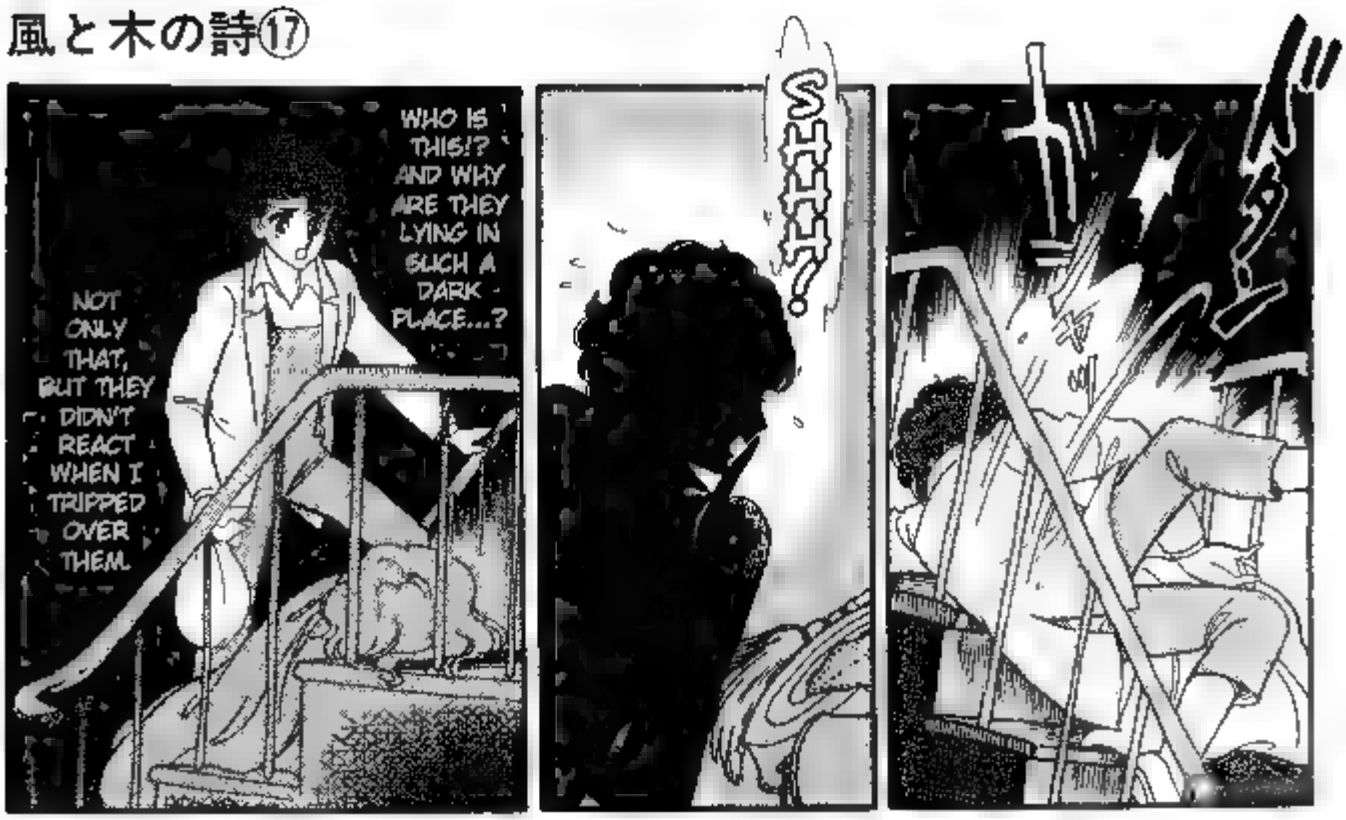
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT GILBERT? IF YOU LEAVE HIM NOW...
BUT...! BUT, SERGE.
IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE A FRIEND THAT WON'T PULL BACK ANY PUNCHES ...
BUT... I HAVE NO CHOICE NOW.
I NEVER WANTED IT TO COME TO THIS EVER..
I FEEL LIKE IT'S ALL THE SAME.
NOW ...?
OR AT ANY TIME?
I CAN'T GO BACK HOME ...
AND HE WANTS IT IN THE SAME FORM AS...
BEING WITH HIM WILL BRING MY AUNT AND ANGELIN TOO MANY PROBLEMS.
... WHAT HE WANTS IS "LOVE."
カラカラ
I THINK YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO YOUR FAMILY. AND THEN, GILBERT...
WILL LIVE COM-FOR-TABLY THERE.
...LIVING COMFORTABLY DOESN'T ONLY DEPEND ON MONEY AND LIFESTYLE.

DON'T CRY, PAT...
... THE SAME
SAME FORM AS...
I'LL BE... FINE.
I'LL FIGURE SOME-THING OUT
HEY! BE CAREFUL!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
NO SPACING OUT!

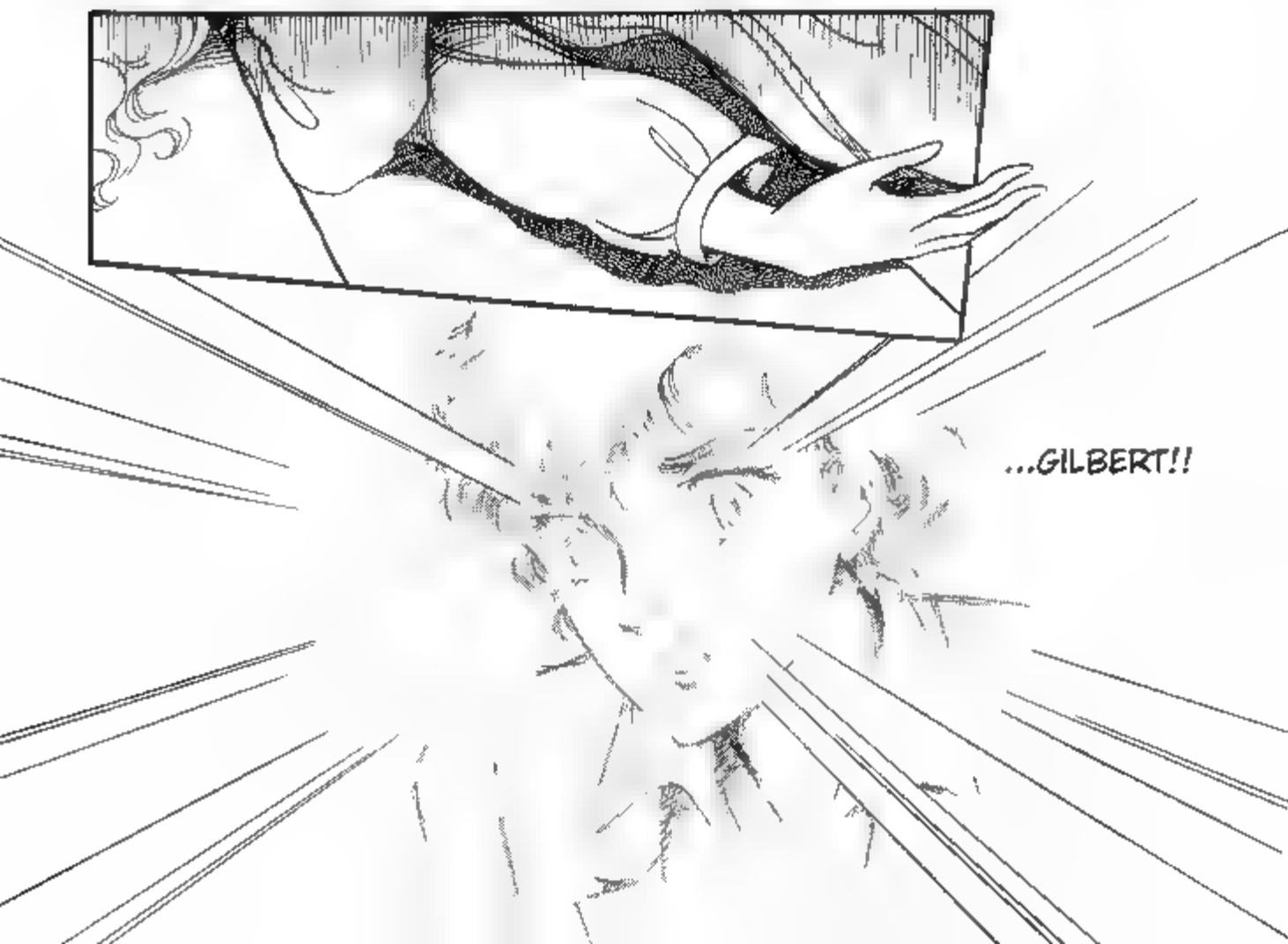
AH ... UGH ...
HE'S GREAT.
A NAT-URAL.
A SHAME THE DRUGS MAKE HIM NOT FULLY THERE.
HERE'S A TIP FOR THE BOY.
...WE'VE BEEN GETTING A LOT OF VETERAN CUSTOMERS LATELY.


ゴク
I'M NOT A CUSTOMER.
... YOU'RE DONE. GO TO SLEEP ...
GET ME...
SOME WINE.
I GOT MY MONEY, RIGHT?
WINE ...

I'M GO-ING ...
OK!
HUR-RY
HE'S GOTTA BE MORE HOOKED ON ALCOHOL THAN THE DRUGS.
DOES HE PLAN ON SPENDING ALL OF THIS ON ALCOHOL AGAIN?
What waste
WHOA!
WHAT IS HE THINKING, DOING THIS WHEN WE HAVE NO MONEY ...?
IT'S BETTER THAN STAYING IN ALL DAY, BUT...
RECENTLY GILBERT HAS ALWAYS BEEN COMING HOME DRUNK.


WHO IS THIS!? AND WHY ARE THEY LYING IN SUCH A DARK PLACE...?
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THEY DIDN'T REACT WHEN I TRIPPED OVER THEM.
SHIIIT!
ドッ

EXCUSE ME... YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU SLEEP HERE.
DO YOU...


...GILBERT!!

AND WHERE ARE YOU GETTING THE MONEY TO BUY IT...?

GIL-BERT!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING!
ガタ
...SORRY. I WON'T TAKE ANY MORE MONEY FROM YOU, THEN.

YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR IDIOCY.
IF I CAN'T ACT HOW I WANT, THEN I'M LEAVING.
GIL...
I CAN DRINK HOWEVER MUCH I LIKE IF I'M GOING TO BE STUCK IN HERE ALL DAY.
...LET GO OF ME...
GIL-BERT!!

I DIDN'T EVEN HIT HIM THAT HARD...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
GIL-BERT ...!
AH ...
.....
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ACTING UP.
HE'S SOBER ...
HE'S SOBER.

GIL-BERT ...

LET'S GO TO TYROL.

AND WE CAN START OVER AGAIN.

... WHAT ...?

WE SHOULD GO TO A PLACE WITH CLEAN AIR NOW ...
THAT WHAT I'VE WANTED TO DO FROM THE BEGINNING.
BUT YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO GO TO PARIS ...
NO!
BUT... GIL-BERT.
LOOK AT US...
I LOVE PARIS!
I SAID I...
... I...
THERE ARE NO DRUGS ...IN TYROL.
WHERE ... ARE YOU GOING!?
A!

YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK ANY-MORE?
.... DON'T GO OUT-SIDE LIKE THIS.
DON'T TOUCH ME!
ガタ!
DON'T YOU DARE FOLLOW ME!!
YOU'RE LIKE THE NAGGING OLD WOMEN DOWN-STAIRS!

HE ACTUALLY LOCKED THE DOOR...
HE CAN'T GO OUT THE WAY HE IS NOW...
ガチャガチャ
OH NO!
GIL...!
...ま...
MUST STILL BE DRUNK!
HE JUST RAN DOWN THE STAIRS, KNOCKING INTO EVERYTHING.
...HE'S IN A ROTTEN MOOD, AGAIN HUH?
...HELLO THERE

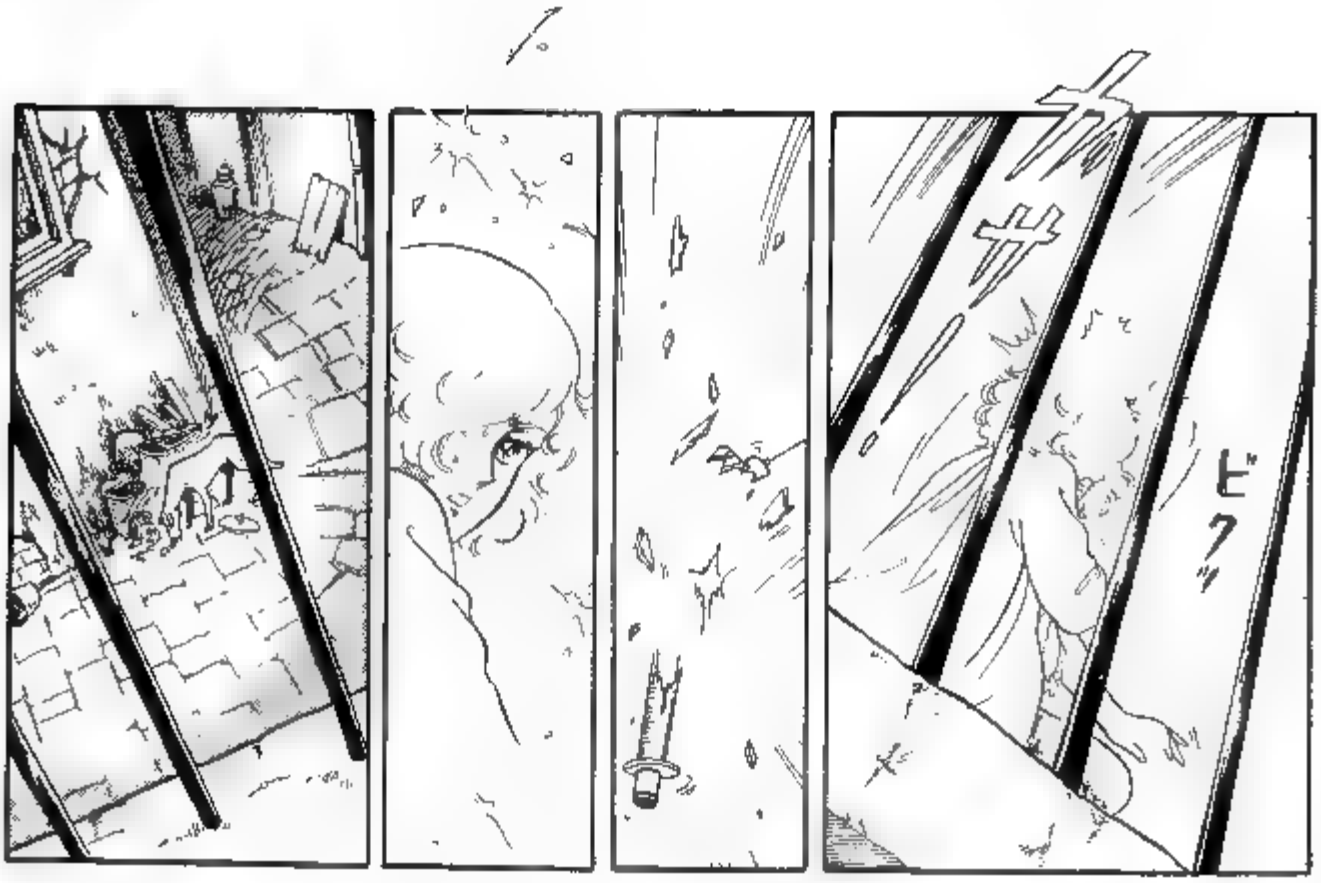
THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN SAVE HIM NOW, NO MATTER WHO HE SEES.

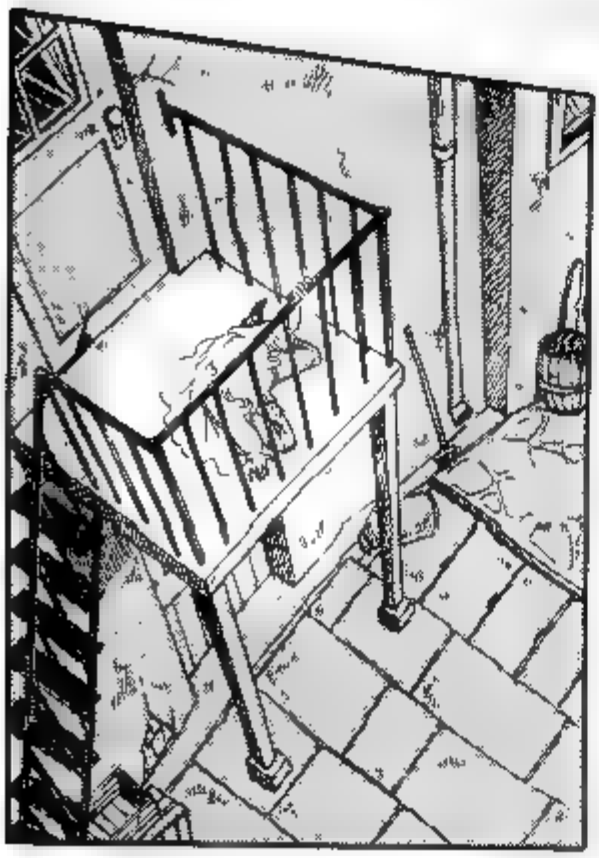
HE'S LIKE THAT EVERY-DAY... MUST BE AN ALCO-HOLIC.
IT'LL RUIN HIS PRETTY FACE SOONER OR LATER.

AHAHAHA?

TEE HEE HEE

ダダダ!


ビク



НА НА НА
НА НА НА
....АНА
НА НА НА
НА НА
НА НА...

НЕН
НЕН
НЕН
НЕН

...DEAR BROTHER.
I KNOW YOU TOLD ME TO KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP
ABOUT GILBERT, SINCE YOU DIDN'T GET TO SEE HIM.
BUT NOT MUCH HAS CHANGED.
HMM...
very strange
something isn't right
SERGE IS VERY WORRIED, BUT.
EVER SINCE YOU LEFT, HE'S STARTED COMING HOME EVERY NIGHT DRUNK.
IT LOOKED TO ME, THAT THE ALCOHOL WAS MAKING HIM HAPPY... I THINK.
(MAYBE A LITTLE TOO HAPPY!)
THE OTHER DAY,
HE ACTUALLY SHOWED UP TO ONE OF OUR GET TOGETHERS

NO...
HE'S JUST SPACING OUT.
HUH ?
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S SMIL-ING.
HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT NOWADAYS.
HE DOESN'T RESPOND, NO MATTER WHAT I SAY.
AND HE'LL GET ANGRY OVER THE SLIGHTEST THINGS.
HE'LL JUST START LAUGHING SOME-TIMES.
IS IT THE ALCO-HOL ?
NOTHING'S CHANGED. IF ANY-THING, IT'S HAP-PENING MORE OFTEN.
HE DOESN'T EAT, ONLY DRINKS.
SPENDS ALL THE MONEY WE HAVE
SERGE!
HE'S THE KIND OF GUY WHO JUST... GETS ALL THE MONEY HE WANTS BY SMILING AT PEOPLE.

I'M GOING ...TO BUY THAT.
GIVE ME...
SOME MONEY.
.... SOR-RY.
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU... TAKE IT BACK!
... SERGE.
THE WORDS JUST SLIPPED OUT...
... THAT'S WHAT HE SAID AND HE RAN AWAY.
GILBERT THEN DISAPPEARED
NO MATTER HOW LONG WE LOOKED, WE COULDN'T FIND HIM IN THE PARK.

.....
.... SOME-THING ...ISN'T RIGHT HERE.

WENT OFF SOME-WHERE BY HIM-SELF.

AND THEN GILBERT ...
HAPPY.... FROM DRINKING ALCOHOL?

GIL-BERT ...?

WINTER'S GOING TO BE DEPRES-SING...

PHEW ....IT'S STARTING TO GET COLD AGAIN.

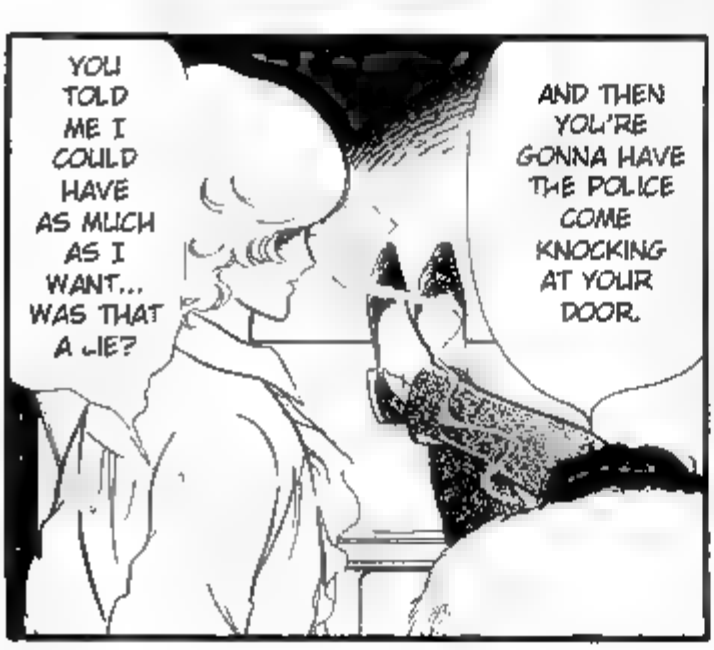
DID HE FORGET TO TAKE HIS COLD MEDICINE?
WHAT IS THIS WHITE POWDER?

……?

THE BED IS A MESS AGAIN.

I CAME BACK AS SOON AS I COULD ...BUT HE'S NOT HERE!

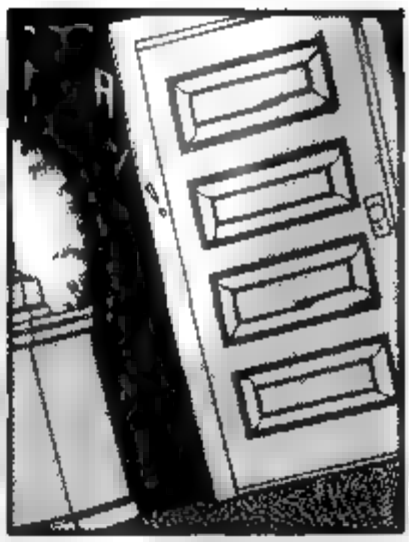
...I WANT MORE.
I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH

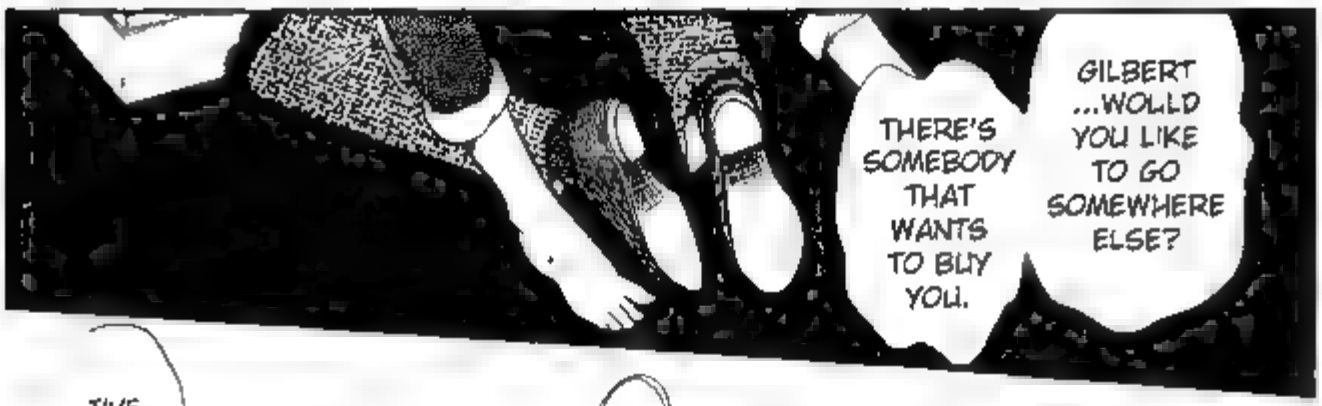

YOU TOLD ME I COULD HAVE AS MUCH AS I WANT... WAS THAT A LIE?
AND THEN YOU'RE GONNA HAVE THE POLICE COME KNOCKING AT YOUR DOOR.

……
YOUR PARTNER IS GOING TO FIND OUT IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.
YOU KNOW YOU'RE OVER-DOING IT, RIGHT?

SORRY, BUT I HATE THAT SMELL.
I'LL ONLY HAVE YOU IF YOU'RE SOBER.
...HAVE YOU BEEN SMOKING OPIUM-LACED TOBACCO?
YES, SIR.
... GET 'IM OUT OF HERE.
BUT, THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE CUSTOMERS.
...THAT FIRE IN YOUR EYES HAS GOTTEN WEAKER SINCE TAKING THOSE DRUGS.

AH ... UGH!




THERE'S SOMEBODY THAT WANTS TO BUY YOU.
GILBERT ...WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?

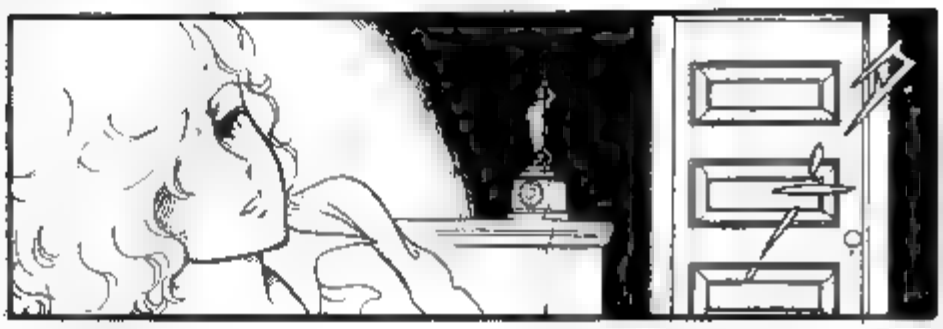
I'VE SEEN BEAUTIFUL PAINTINGS OF IT.
SICILY.
IT'S A SMALL ISLAND IN THE SEA.
THE SEA...
CHERUB DE LA MER...

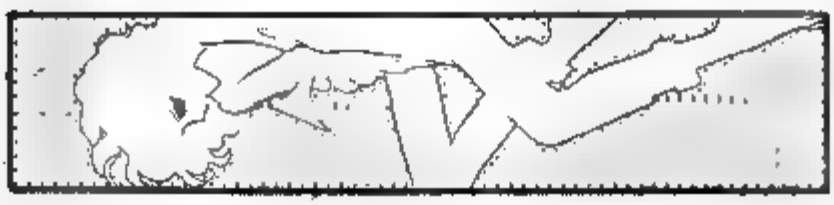
WHERE ...

STAYING HERE WILL BE THE END OF YOU... LET'S LEAVE TOGETHER.
YOUR PARTNER IS GETTING WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HE LONGS TO TAKE YOU WHERE HE GREW UP... WE HAVE TO SELL YOU TO A CUSTOMER.

huh !?
MAYBE I'LL END UP SOME-WHERE ELSE
...IF SO,
THEN OK.
SOME-WHERE TO WASH ME AWAY.
WHEN I DIE...
WILL YOU THROW ME INTO THE SEA ...?
... OK ...

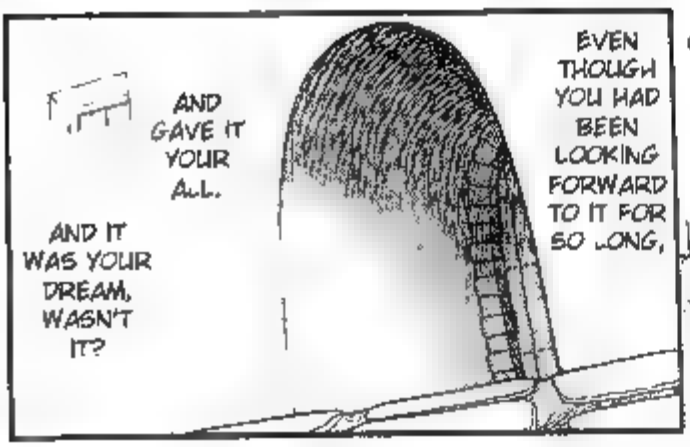
THIS IS OUR SECRET!
OK!?
I'LL GO AHEAD AND MAKE THE ARRANGE-MENTS. WAIT THERE.
O... OK ...!





...SO YOU SAY, PASCAL.
LIFE DOESN'T MESS AROUND!

HOTEL
I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T BEEN COMPLETELY FORWARD WITH EACH OTHER?
AS WE HEAD DEEPER INTO THE FALL, PASCAL DROPS BY.
SIGH!
OR ...
THE BACCA-LAUREATE WASN'T A GOOD IDEA AFTER ALL.


EVEN THOUGH YOU HAD BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO IT FOR SO LONG,
AND GAVE IT YOUR ALL.
AND IT WAS YOUR DREAM, WASN'T IT?

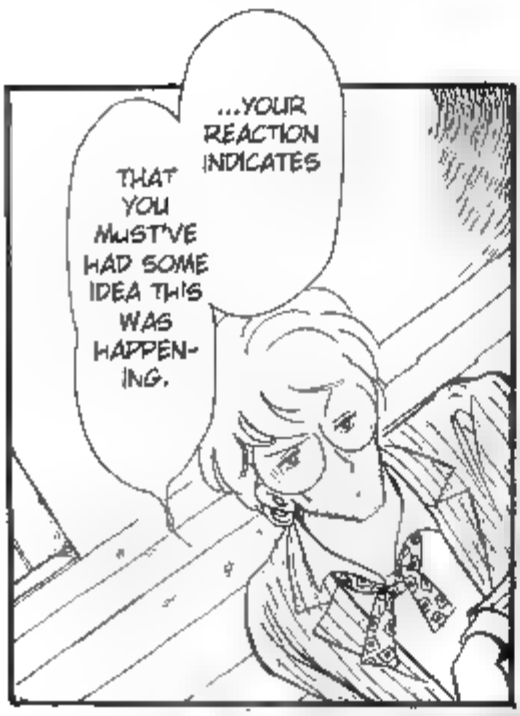
I'M JEALOUS ...
SO ... YOU GUYS ARE STILL TOGE-THER?

BUT... WE MAY HAVE TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING EVEN MORE SERIOUS.
RELAX. I DIDN'T COME HERE TO TALK ABOUT THAT TODAY.

PAS-CAL!

WELL, I GUESS WITH YOUR PERSONALITY, THAT'S A GIVEN.

SOCIETAL PROBLEMS?
IT'S A GOOD THING I READ THE NEWSPAPERS WHEN I DID
THE NARCOTIC OPIUM
SO MUCH SO, I HAVEN'T TOLD PAT ABOUT THIS.
DESPITE BEING A WOMAN, SHE SAYS SHE WANTS TO BE A REPORTER.
SO SHE ALWAYS HAS TO PUT HER TWO CENTS IN WHEN IT COMES TO SOCIETAL PROBLEMS.
THERE'S AN INCREASE IN DRUG ADDICTION THROUGHOUT EUROPE.
LOTS OF SMUGGLING
YOU CAN BE SUCH A CHILD ...
YOU MEAN FROM... THE OPIUM WARS?
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH.
...THAT WHITE POWDER...



....A SMALL PART OF ME,

...THOUGHT OF IT IN THE BACK OF MY MIND.

OPIUM SMUGGLING

ADDICTION ON THE RISE

I THOUGHT IT WAS THE ACTIONS ...

OR GANGSTERS

OF SOME SHADY ARTISTS IN SECRET,

PROHIBITED

THEY HAVE AUDITORY AND VISUAL HALLUCINATIONS.
THEY'LL GET REALLY IRRITATED IF THEY'RE WITHDRAWING.
THE DRUG MAKES THEM FEEL APATHETIC ALL DAY
APATHETIC
IRRITATED
...ONCE THEY GET HOOKED, IT'S OVER.
WHEN PEOPLE TAKE IT, THEY GO NUMB AND FORGET ALL THE BAD THINGS IN THEIR LIVES.
THE DAY-DREAMING LOOK ON HIS FACE...
GILBERT'S ALCOHOLISM ...IS PROBABLY JUST A WAY TO COVER IT UP.
...WHY DID I NOT NOTICE THIS!?
I THOUGHT ...IT WAS JUST HIS USUAL BEHAVIOR!
...WHAT, DRUGS!?
HERE!
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

...YEP.
...MAYBE GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL, EVEN IF BY FORCE ...
WE DON'T HAVE TIME. WE NEED TO TALK TO HIM.
THERE'S SO MUCH OF IT
WE JUST NEED TO LOCK HIM UP... AND PREVENT HIM FROM TAKING ANY MORE DRUGS...
A HOSPITAL !?
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO.
WE HAVE TO ACT DECISIVELY

くる
NOT WHEN HE'S LIKE THIS ...!
I'M NOT LEAVING HIM!! ...I CAN'T LEAVE HIM!
FOR NOW ...
THE BREAK-UP TALK WILL HAVE TO WAIT.
YOU TWO ARE TOO INNOCENT ...YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE MET EACH OTHER
WHAT HAVE I BEEN WATCHING ...?
SERGE ...
I... DIDN'T KNOW.
ANY OF THIS ...

"WE HAVE TO ACT DECISIVELY."
"GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL, EVEN IF BY FORCE ..."
HE WON'T REACH OUT TO ME.
NOT ANYMORE ...SERGE...
HE WON'T...
REACH OUT...

HOME-
LESS
ADDICTS
...?
.....

WHAT A
MESS...

GIL ...!
GIL-BERT! WHERE ARE YOU?

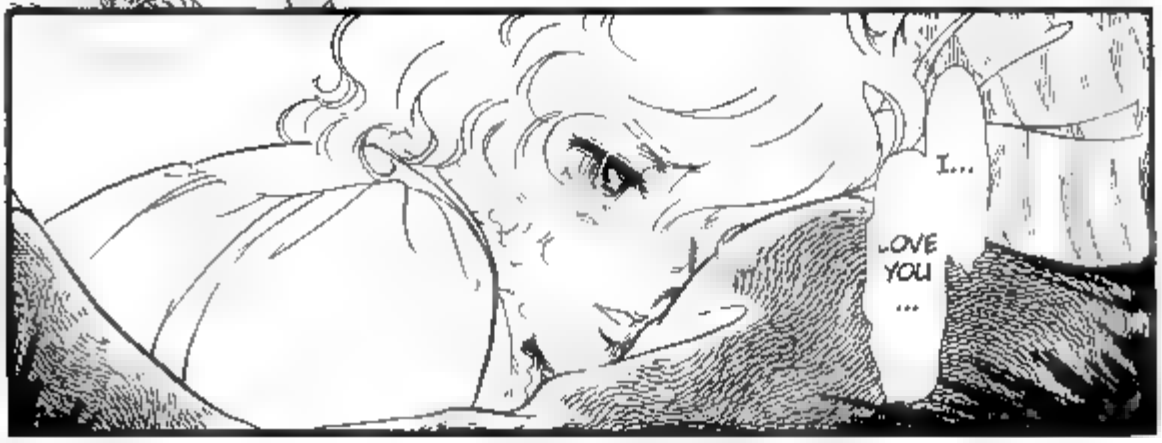
WH ...

...DID YOU... COME TO... PICK ME UP ...?
YOU'VE BEEN USING SO MUCH YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

YOU'LL DIE, YOU IDIOT!

DID DARNINI COME HERE!?
... WHY ARE YOU LIKE THIS ...?
NO ...
I... CALLED ....

PLEASE ...
I WANT TO SEE THE SEA
TO THE SEA.
YOU SAID... YOU WOULD TAKE ME...
IF I... CAN'T GO NOW...
I'LL DIE.


I...
LOVE YOU ...

ガラガラ
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA BE ABLE TO DO TO THAT KIND OF GUY IF YOU GO THERE!?
YOU IDIOT, SIT BACK DOWN!
WE HAVE TO TAKE HIM BACK !!
LET'S GO TO DARNINI'S PLACE!
THIS IS BAD ...
HE HASN'T COME BACK YET!

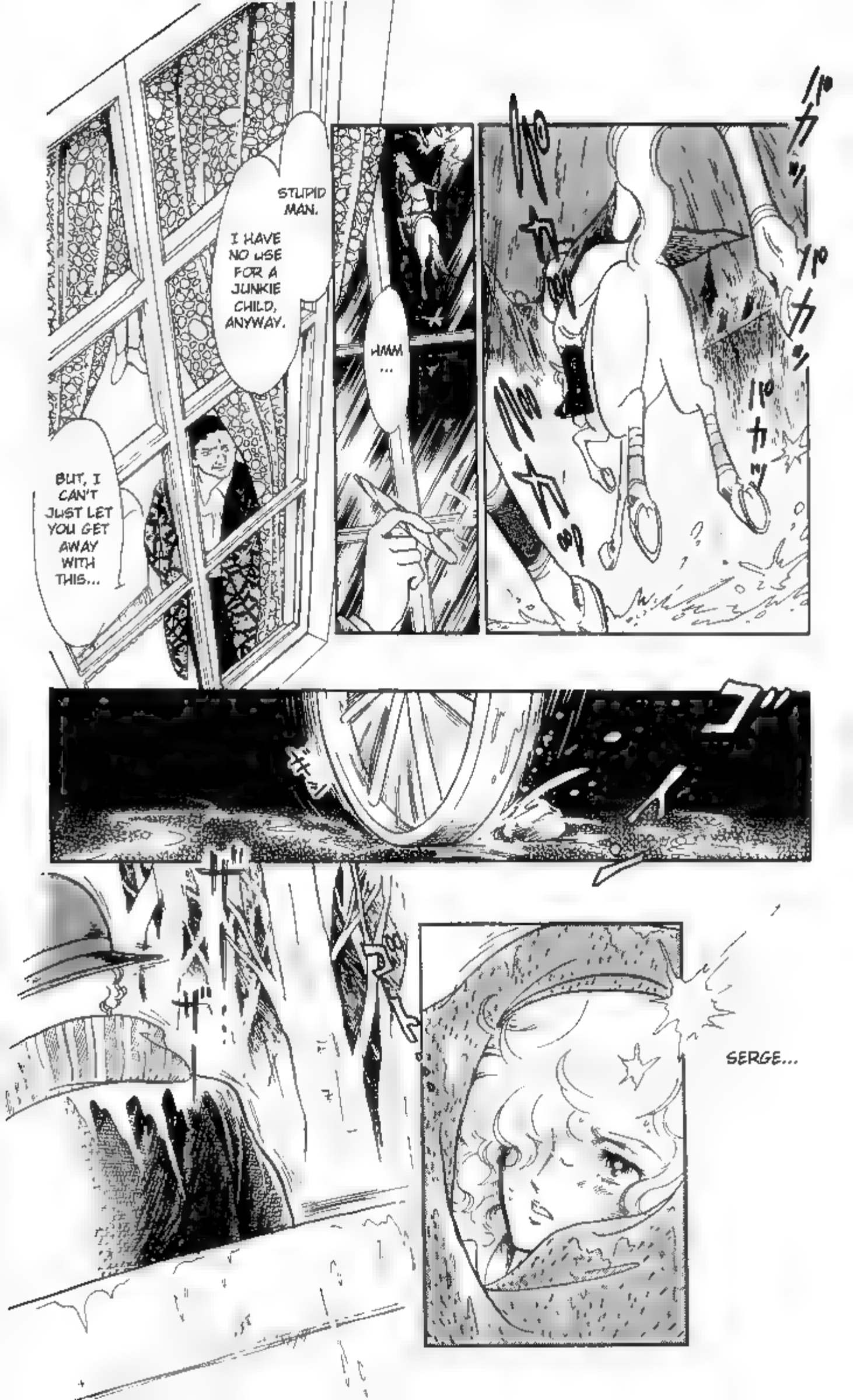
THAT PERSON ...

WHEN THAT PERSON HOLDS ME TO THEIR CHEST.

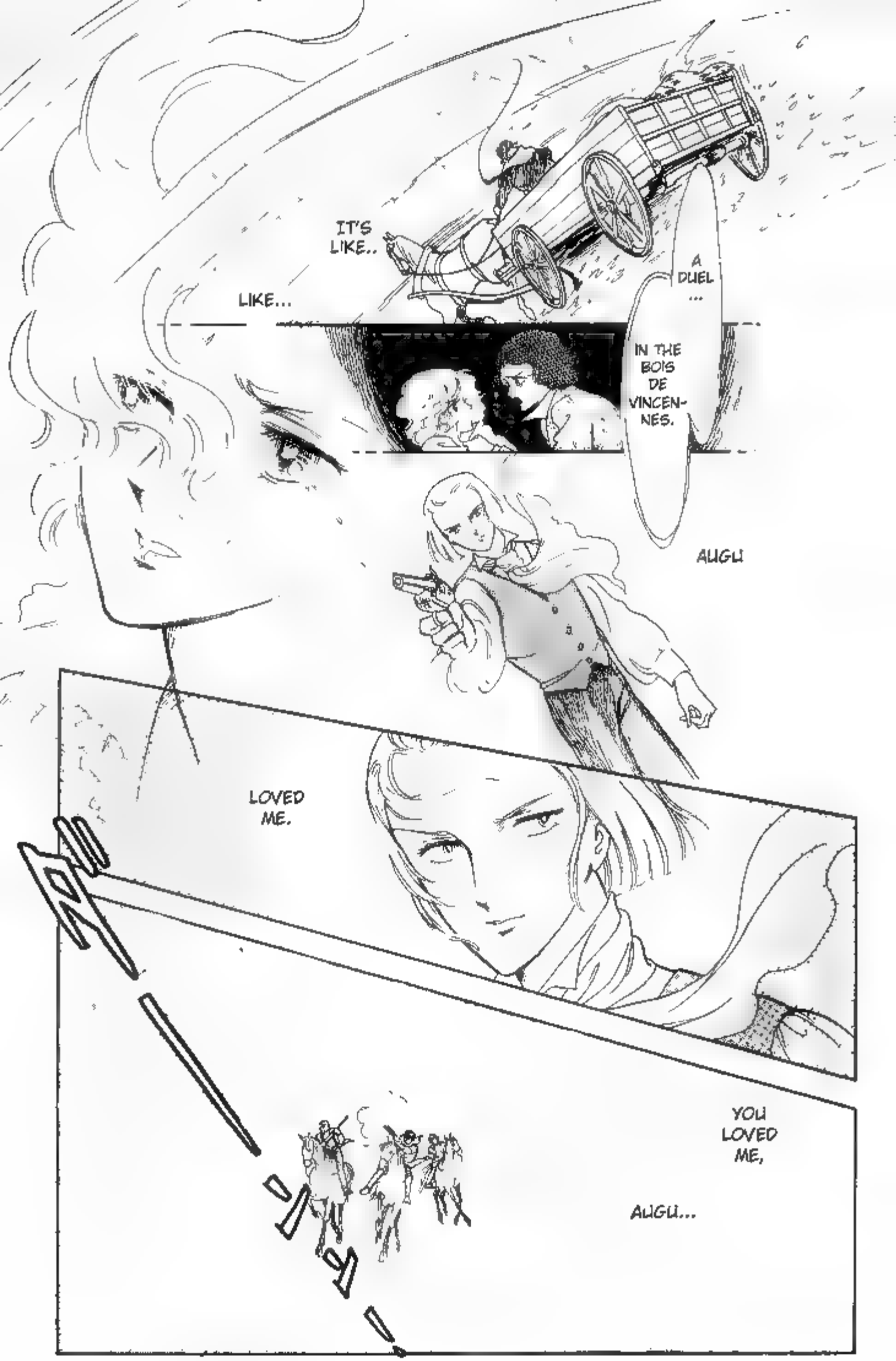
WHEN THEY SPEAK SOFTLY TO ME.

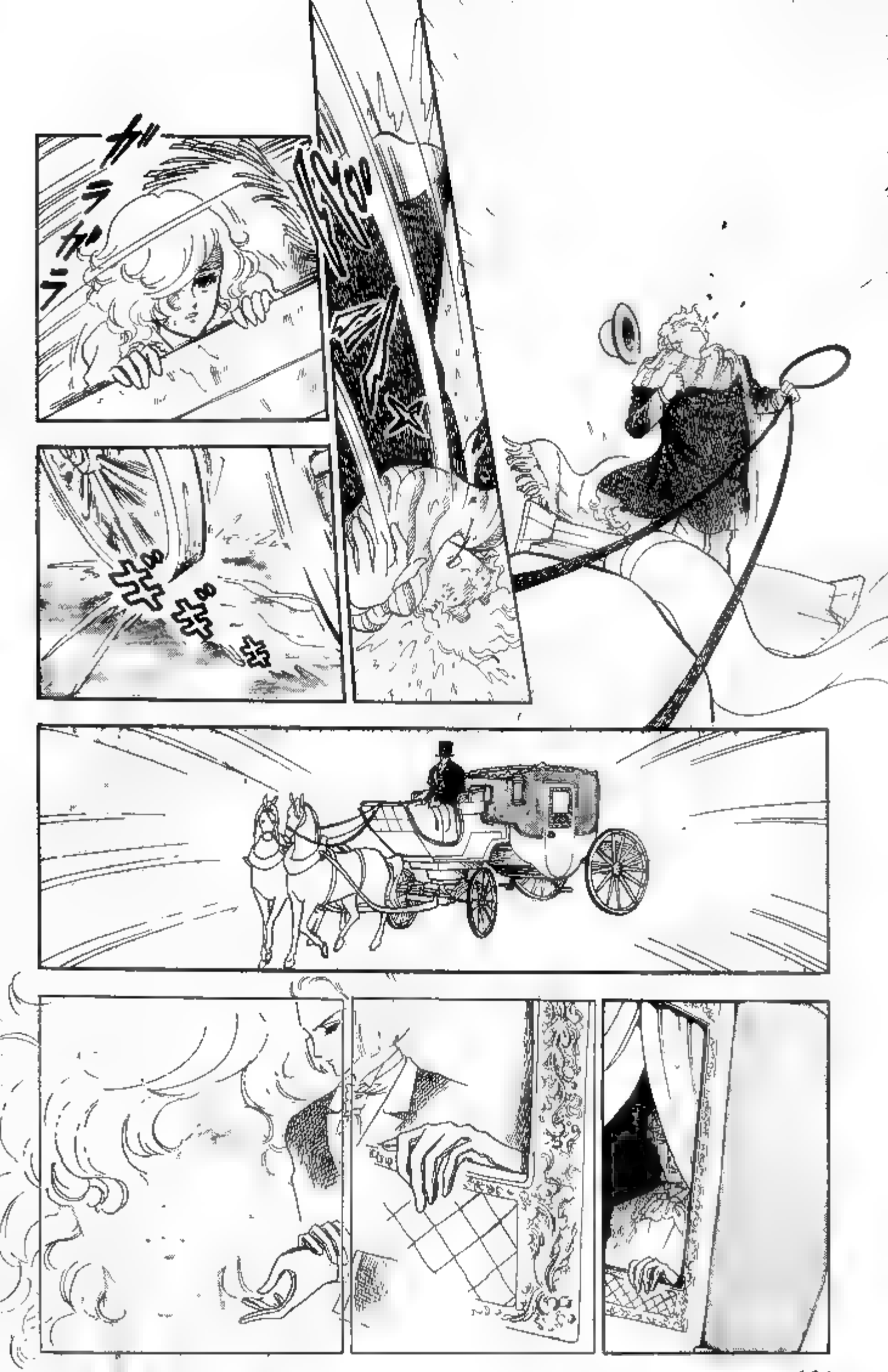
...I CAN FORGET EVERY-THING.

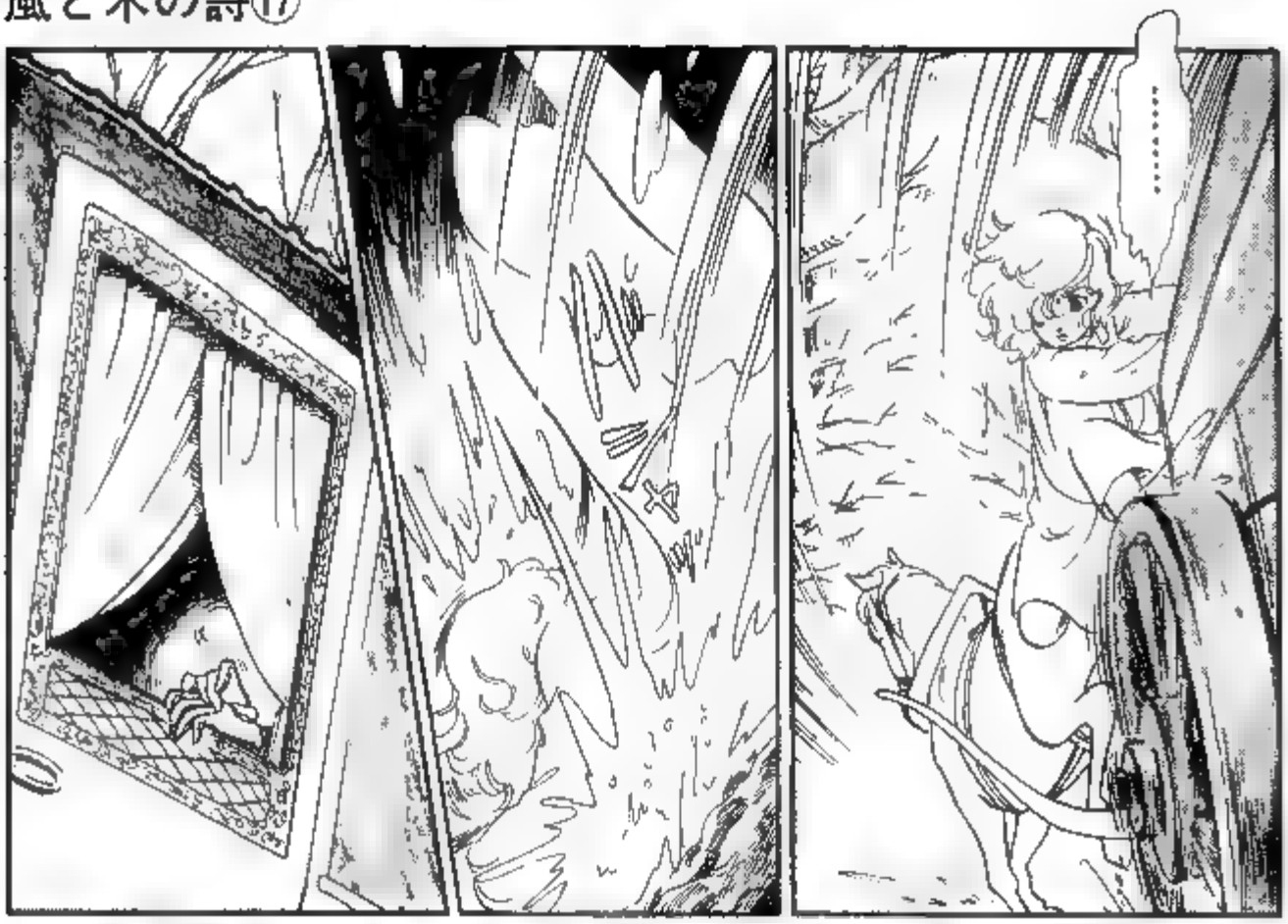
'TCH'
I'LL HAND HIM OVER IN THE BOIS DE VINCENNES
WE HAVE TO GAIN GROUND BEFORE THEY CATCH UP TO US.
WHY DON'T YOU FOCUS ON WRAPPING YOURSELF UP IN THAT BLANKET, INSTEAD?
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING OVER THERE? A SONG?
. YOUR WORDS OF LOVE MAKE ME SEE LIFE IN ROSY HUES
I'LL LIVE A LIFE OF LUXURY IN SICILY!
AFTER WAITING A YEAR.
AND HEAD OVER TO ALGIERS.
THEN I'LL GET MY HUGE PAYMENT.
I'LL KILL HIM, THAT DAMN THIEF!
MOVE
OUT OF THE WAY!
ジャ


BUT, I CAN'T JUST LET YOU GET AWAY WITH THIS...
STUPID MAN.
I HAVE NO USE FOR A JUNKIE CHILD, ANYWAY.
HMM ...
SERGE...

ARE WE ...?
...WHERE...
ガク
THE BOIS DE VINCENNES.
WE'LL ARRIVE AT THE RENDEZ-VOUS, SOON.
THEN,
YOU'LL BE IN A PROPER HORSE CARRIAGE, AND WON'T HAVE TO BE WET ANYMORE.
ガラ
ガラガラ
...GUN-SHOTS.
OUR PUR-SU-ERS!
WE HAVE TO HURRY! THEY'LL CATCH YOU!


IT'S LIKE..
LIKE...
A DUEL ...
IN THE BOIS DE VINCEN-NES.
AUGU
LOVED ME.
YOU LOVED ME,
AUGU...

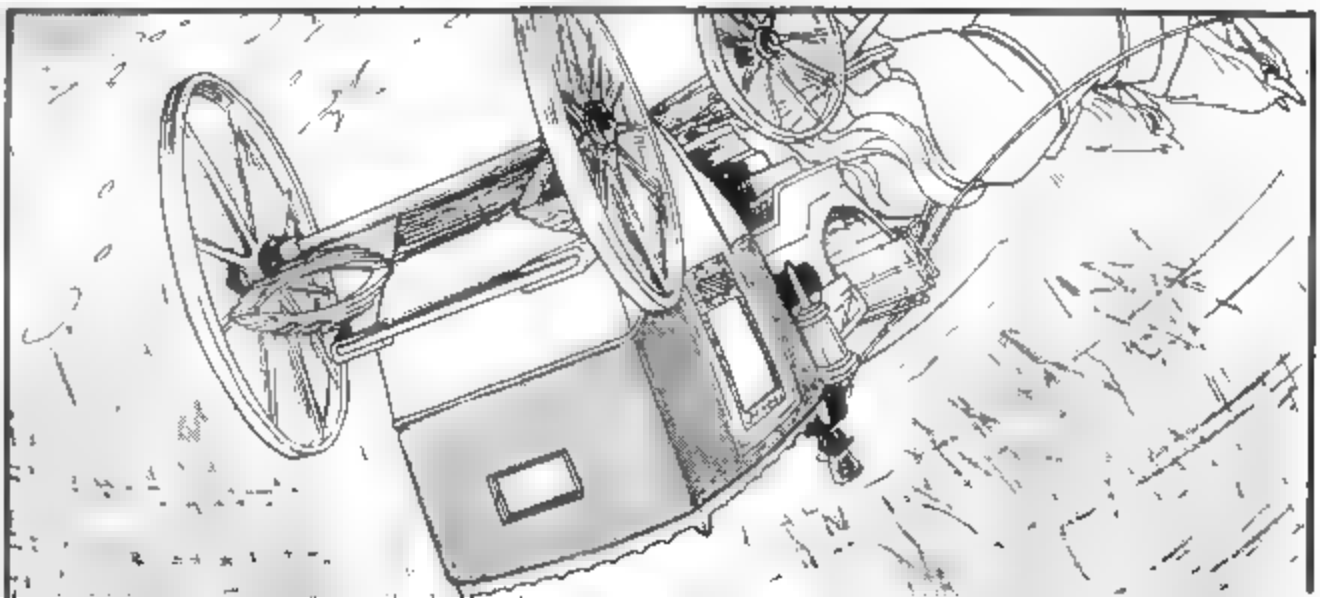

ガラガラ

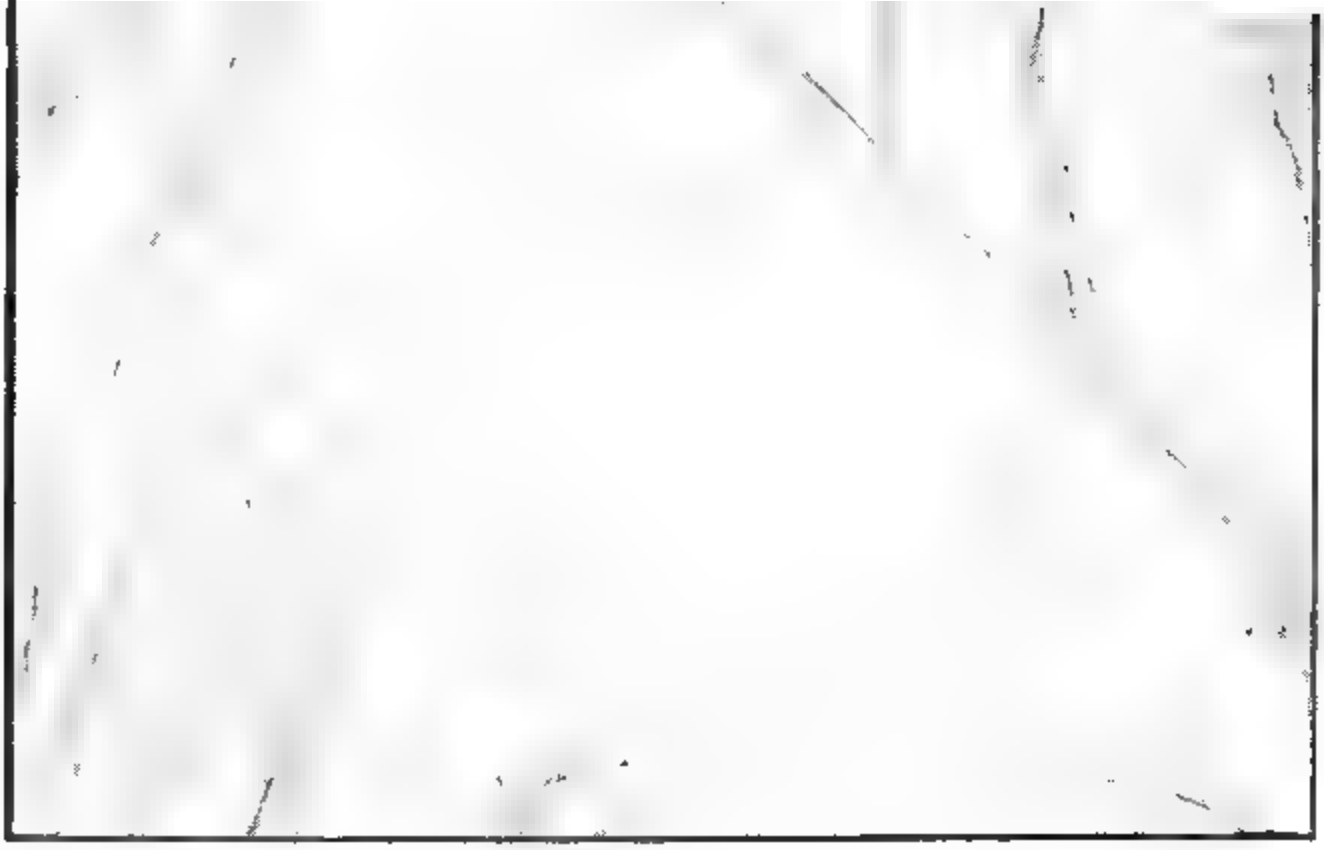


WE'RE GIVING UP ON THE KID.
FORGET IT... PULL OUT.
YES, SIR!
AUGH
WHY ARE YOU LEAVING?
ACK ...
AH
AHH!
TAKE ME...

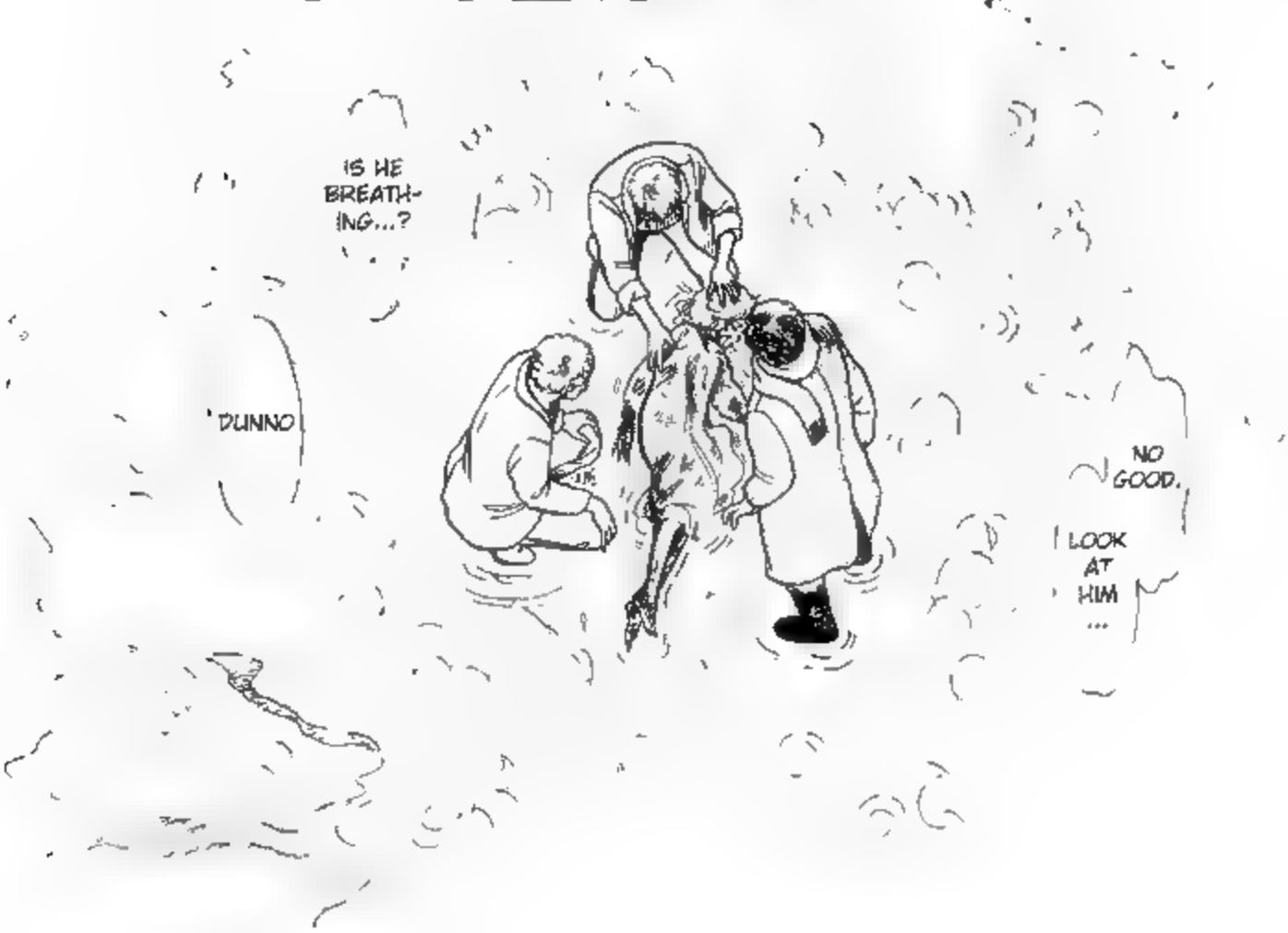
TAKE ME BACK
TO OUR CASTLE, CHERUB DE LA MER.

TO THE SPRING
WHERE FLOWERS ARE IN FULL BLOOM...
...BACK THEN
ALL THE THINGS NO ONE HAS EVER KNOWN.





!
!


IS HE BREATH-ING...?
DUNNO
NO GOOD.
LOOK AT HIM ...

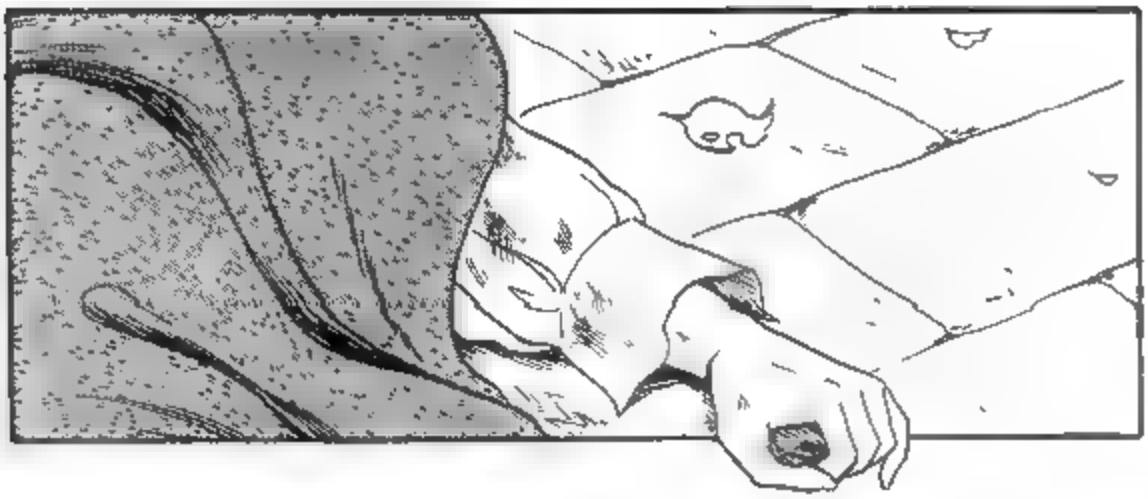
SURE
...RE-GARD-LESS...
LET'S PUT HIM ON THE CART.
SERGE ...
STAY THERE
...DON'T LEAVE ME.

I'M BEING CARRIED BY THE WIND
LIKE MY HEART IS TRYING TO FLY...

ダン
ダン
ダン
ダン
ダン
ダン

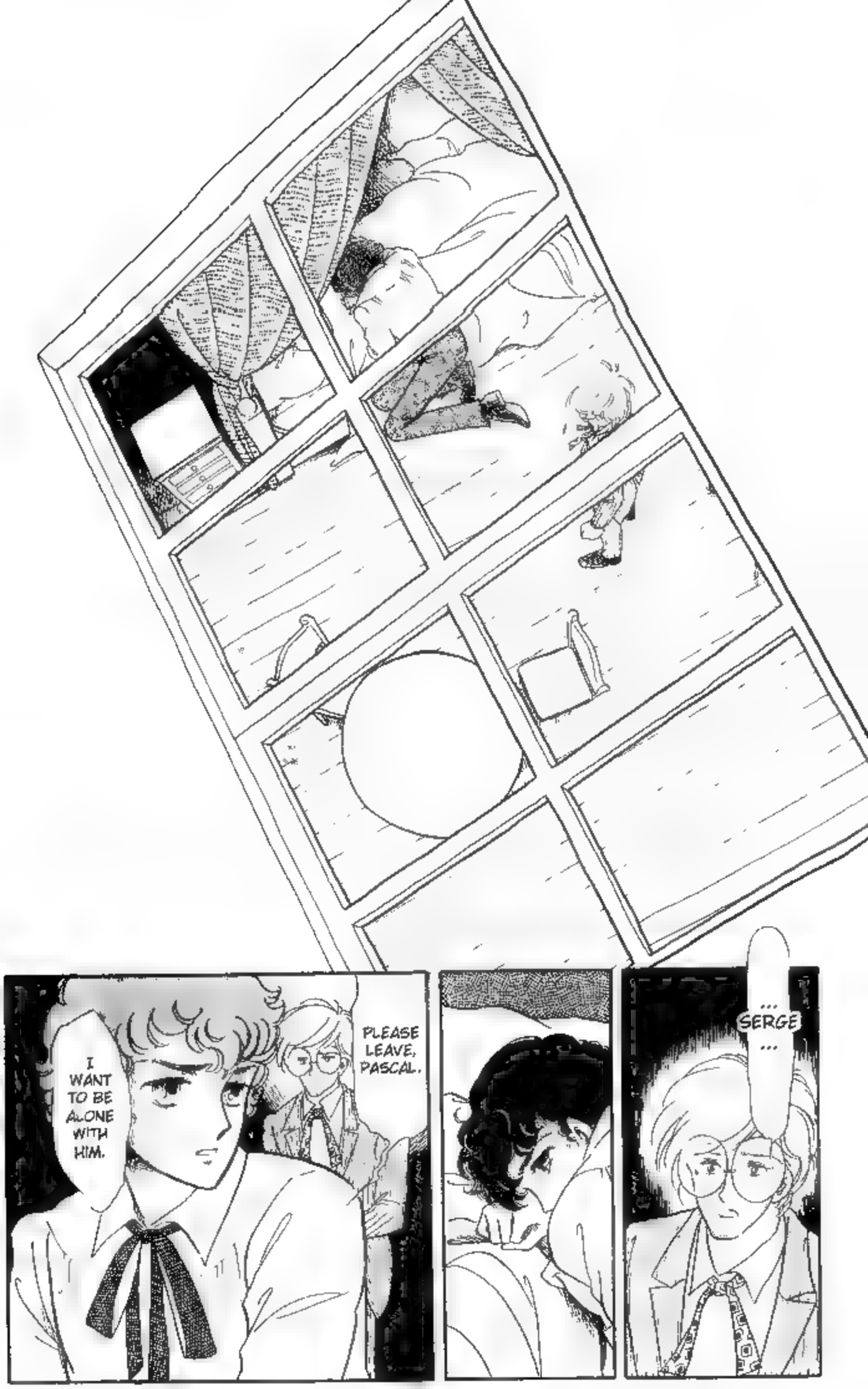
HOLD ON ...!
CAM-ILLE?
I'M OPEN-ING THE DOOR
.....
SERGE .. HUR.
HURRY ..
SERGE!
GIL ...
DOWN-STAIRS... PLEASE.

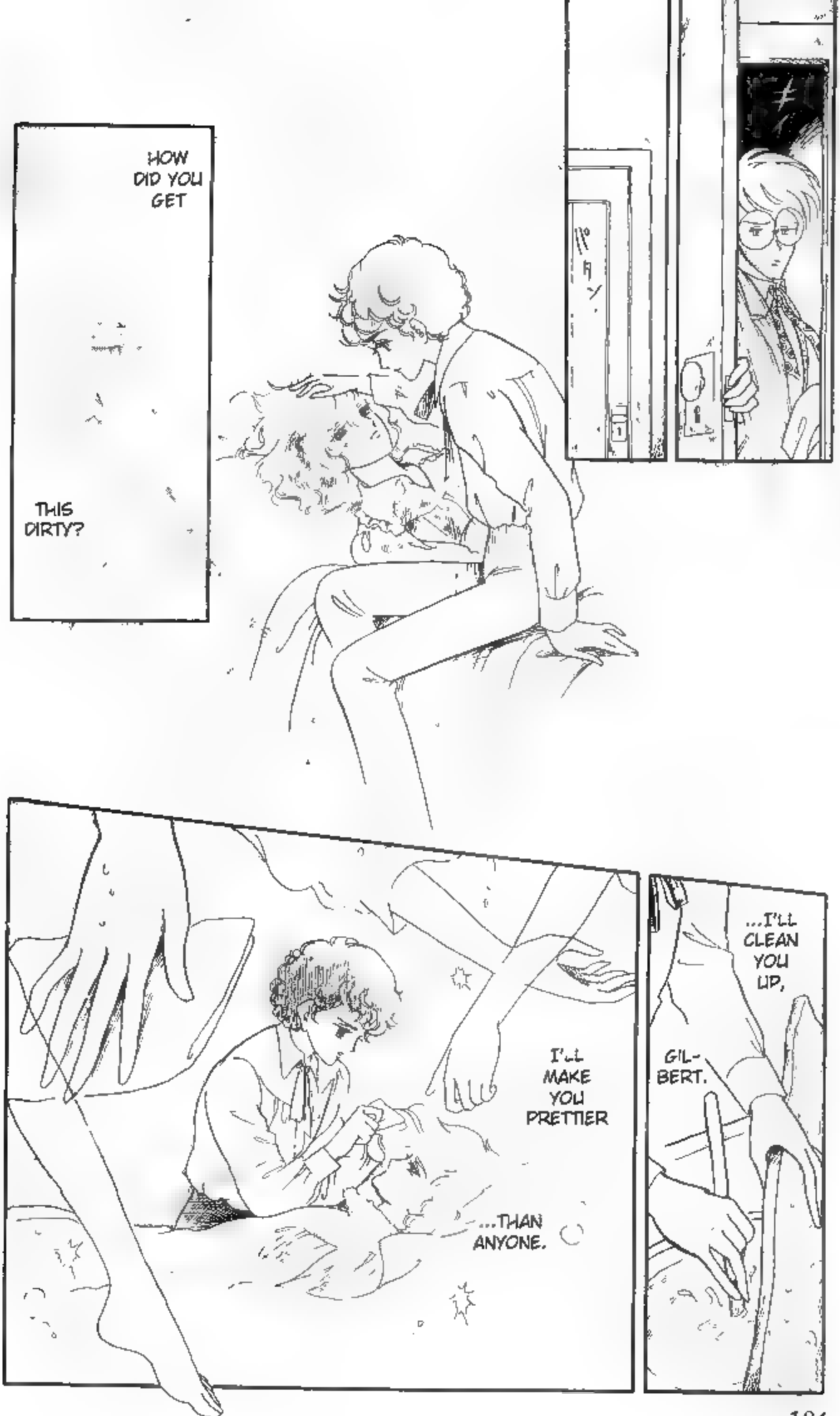
ガヤ
ワイワイ
WHAT HAPPENED TO GILBERT?
WHERE IS HE ...?
EX-CUSE ME...
EX-CUSE ME...
PLEASE MOVE
LET HIM THROUGH. HE'S THE KID'S PARTNER ....

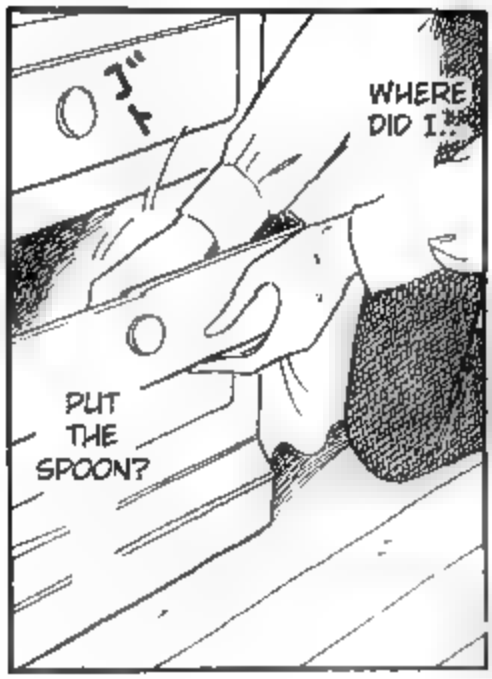


I'M BACK...
SERGE ...

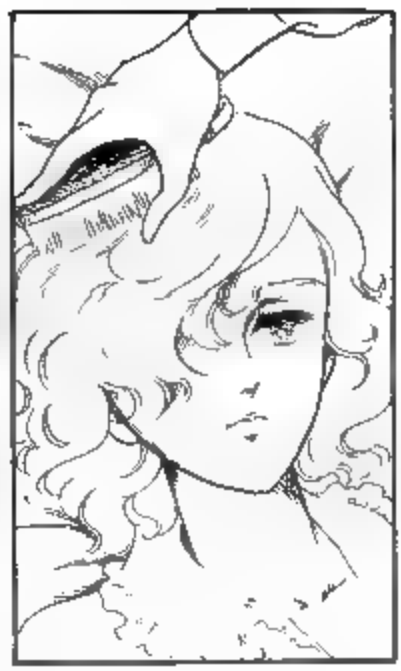
I AM YOURS NOW.


I WANT TO BE ALONE WITH HIM.
PLEASE LEAVE, PASCAL.
... SERGE ...


HOW DID YOU GET
THIS DIRTY?
I'LL MAKE YOU PRETTIER
...THAN ANYONE.
...I'LL CLEAN YOU UP,
GIL-BERT.


ゴト
WHERE DID I...
PUT THE SPOON?

YOUR LIPS ARE DRY.
I'LL GET YOU SOME WA-TER.



HERE ...

... THERE ...
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL NOW.
LIKE...
LIKE A RED ROSE.

GIL-
BERT
...

YOU'RE
BEAU-
TIFUL.

YOU...
WERE YOU HAPPY? WERE YOU UNHAPPY?
ARE A FLOWER THAT WILL FOREVER BE OUT OF MY REACH.
YOU LEFT BEFORE YOU COULD TELL ME...

YOUR WARM AND ENTICING EMBRACE...
YOU WERE ABANDONED AND CONFUSED.
IS THE GENTLE-NESS OF [illegible] BREATHING WHEN WE TOUCH,
AND THE WHISPERS THAT LINGER IN MY EARS.
ALL I REMEMBER.
NO, THAT'S NOT THE RIGHT WORD. YOU WERE AN ANGEL..
WHY?
WHY...

I ONLY WANT TO HEAR ONE THING.
YOU.
EVEN IF IT'S YOU SCOLDING ME BEFORE YOU LEAVE...
... BRO-THER.
IT'S ME!
OPEN THE DOOR ...!
PAT ...?
BROTH- ..... ....

THEN IT'S TRUE ....! REALLY ... GILBERT IS.....
... PLEASE, DON'T SAY ANY-THING.
IT FEELS LIKE I JUST... SENT HIM TO HELL.
NO... IT'S WORSE THAN THAT.
... DAMN.
HAVEN'T FELT LIKE THIS SINCE MICHEL.
HE MIGHT'VE HEARD ME SOME-HOW... THAT SOUNDS JUST LIKE HIM TO DO THAT.
PAS-CAL!
...I TOLD SERGE TO LEAVE GILBERT.
OTHER-WISE THEY'D BOTH FALL TO RUIN.
AND SO HE... JUST PROVED ME RIGHT.
STOP IT!
I KNOW THIS ISN'T HOW YOU REALLY FEEL! YOU'RE NOT THAT KIND OF PERSON!

IT'S TOO MUCH.
PAT ...!
OH,
...YOU CAN SAY THAT ALL YOU WANT. I'M JUST PROVIDING AN EXPLANATION.
... WHY!? IT'S HORRIBLE
SO SUDDENLY.
WHY DID THIS...
THIS IS TOO MUCH, GILBERT!
PAT ...I'M SORRY.
I...
WHY DID YOU LEAVE US LIKE THIS SO SUDDENLY?
WHAT ABOUT SERGE!?
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO SERGE NOW, WHO HAD BEEN CARRYING YOUR WORRIES WITH HIM?
WHAT DO WE DO?

.....
BUT, THIS IS WRONG.
...HE HAD EXPERIENCED!!
LOSING YOU WAS THE MOST UNBEARABLE PAIN...
THIS IS WRONG, GILBERT.
THINGS PLAYED OUT AS PASCAL SAID THEY WOULD
YOUR UNCONTROLLABLE BEHAVIOR CAUSED SUCH PAIN TO SERGE.
SERGE...
SERGE... ARE YOU THERE?
SERGE
SERGE

HE'S BEEN... LIKE THIS THE WHOLE TIME?
HE HASN'T LET GO OF IT UNTIL NOW.
THAT'S THE SPOON HE USES TO GIVE GILBERT WATER.
HE HASN'T BEEN SLEEPING
YESTERDAY WAS THE SAME
AND WRAP HIM TIGHTLY IN A BLANKET.
WE'LL NEED TO LAY HIM DOWN,
GIVE HIM SOME SPACE!
heave ho
SERGE !?
THAT SHOULD WARM HIM UP.
I'LL TAKE ONE FROM THE BED.

...I GET IT, SERGE.
WE NEED TO LEAVE IT ON GIL-BERT, RIGHT?
SO HE'S PRETENDING GILBERT IS ALIVE.
HE DOESN'T WANT TO GIVE UP ON HIM.
...IT'S LIKE HE'S ALIVE AND ASLEEP ...
SERGE ...!
CAN YOU HEAR ME? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU! WE WON'T LEAVE YOUR SIDE ...!

YOU AREN'T ALONE ...
... SERGE
PLEASE ... TELL US... WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
WE WOULD LOVE IT IF YOU COULD TALK TO US.
GILBERT WAS TRULY
WHEN THE MESSENGER IN BLACK ARRIVED,
EXCUSE ME. IS THIS THE HOME OF SERGE BATTOUR?
I COME FROM THE COCTEAU ESTATE.
ABOUT TO BE TAKEN AWAY...

BRING IN THE COFFIN

WE ARE HERE TO COLLECT GILBERT COCTEAU.

THE COCTEAU ESTATE?
AH ...
GIL-BERT'S

HOLD ON!
ALREADY!? ...WE SENT A LETTER TO AUGUSTE BEAU IN MARSEILLES, BUT....

HIS REAL FATHER ...
BUT ...
ISN'T COMING ...
WE WERE TOLD YOUR ATTENDANCE IS NOT WELCOME.... OUR APOLOGIES.

TH...
WE'LL BE HAVING THE FUNERAL AT MAR-SEILLES.

WE KNOW.
WE RECEIVED INSTRUC-TIONS FROM MARSEILLES

GILBERT ...
... WHERE DID YOU GO?
DID YOU GO BACK HOME NOW?
YOU'RE NEVER COMING BACK, ARE YOU?
THIS IS JUST TOO MUCH ...
IT'S ...
WHAT WILL THAT MAN FEEL...
WHEN HE SEES GILBERT IN THAT COFFIN...?
OR IN-DIFFER-ENCE...?
RE-GRET?
IT'S LIKE THEY'VE COME TO TAKE BACK A LOST ITEM...!

FROM NOW ON,
WE WON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN
JUST AS WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO LEAD TO THIS POINT.
AFTER ALL, THOSE TWO...
WILL NEVER BE AROUND EACH OTHER AGAIN...

SERGE ...!
SERGE!
THIS ISN'T RIGHT.
NO ...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY DIDN'T COME HERE TO SEE THEIR OWN DEAD SON.
THE COFFIN WENT OUT OF SIGHT.
AND THE SOUNDS OF HOOVES ON THE COBBLE PAVING FADED IN THE DISTANCE.
WHAT WAS ALL THAT!? THAT COFFIN WAS SO FANCY...
WHO ARE HIS PARENTS !?
BUT SERGE,
IT'S NOT REGISTERING AS REALITY TO YOU,
IS IT?
...UM,
...MESSENGERS OF DEATH.
THEIR ARRIVAL SIGNIFIED THE FINALITY OF GILBERT'S DEATH.
...THE MEN IN BLACK CAME AND WENT AS FAST AS THE WIND.

...! THANK YOU SO MUCH.
I HEATED IT UP. THEY SAY YOUR BODY GETS COLD WHEN YOUR SPIRITS ARE LOW.
HERE... HE HASN'T EATEN ANYTHING.
SERGE ... ARE YOU OK!? HANG IN THERE. KEEP YOUR HEAD UP!
THAT BOY... WAS TOO GOOD FOR LIVING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
IT'S SO SAD...
SERGE ... HERE.
.....!
NEITHER
... HAD ANY EFFECT ON SERGE
THE WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OTHERS AND THE WARMTH OF THE FOOD-

SEVEN NIGHTS HAD PASSED, AND EVEN WHEN BROTHER AND I HAD BELIEVED HE WAS GONE...
....SERGE
YOU,
SERGE!
CONTINUE TO CHASE
...
AFTER GILBERT'S HEART
...
IT'S DANGEROUS UP THERE!
PLEASE COME DOWN.

THE HUNGRY DOVES APPROACHING THE WINDOW-

DO YOU GIVE THEM BREAD... BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HE DID?

...IT WAS ...

HIM ....

...IS HE STILL LIKE THAT?

OR ARE YOU SAYING THE DOVES,

ARE GILBERT HIMSELF...?

YOUR HOST FAMILY IS WORRIED ABOUT THEIR UNWED 'DAUGHTER.' THEY DON'T WANT YOU TO CATCH WHATEVER OUR 'SICK FRIEND' HAS GOT!

I CAN'T, I HAVE TO REPORT SOMETHING TO THE NEWSPAPER AGENCY ...

...I COULDN'T SLEEP. ANYWAY, LET'S SWITCH.

You're supposed to be the night shift.

... PASCAL!

YOU'RE AWAKE ALREADY? YOU SHOULD RELAX AT HOME...

SERGE ISN'T THAT WEAK! I CAN GUARANTEE THAT!
A FEW MONTHS? PASCAL, THAT'S FAR TOO LONG!
I KNOW.

THAT'S THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.
HOW ... HOW RUDE!!
WHAT NERVE TO SAY SUCH THINGS ...!

I MAILED MY LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO THE SCHOOL, SO I CAN HANG WITH YOU FOR A FEW MONTHS WHILE YOU GET BETTER.

TO SEE YOU LIKE THAT...
IT LOOKED PAINFUL FOR PASCAL
YOU ARE SERGE. NOT GILBERT ...
YOU WERE SO CLOSE TO GILBERT
THAT YOU LOST YOURSELF.
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, SAY SOME-THING!

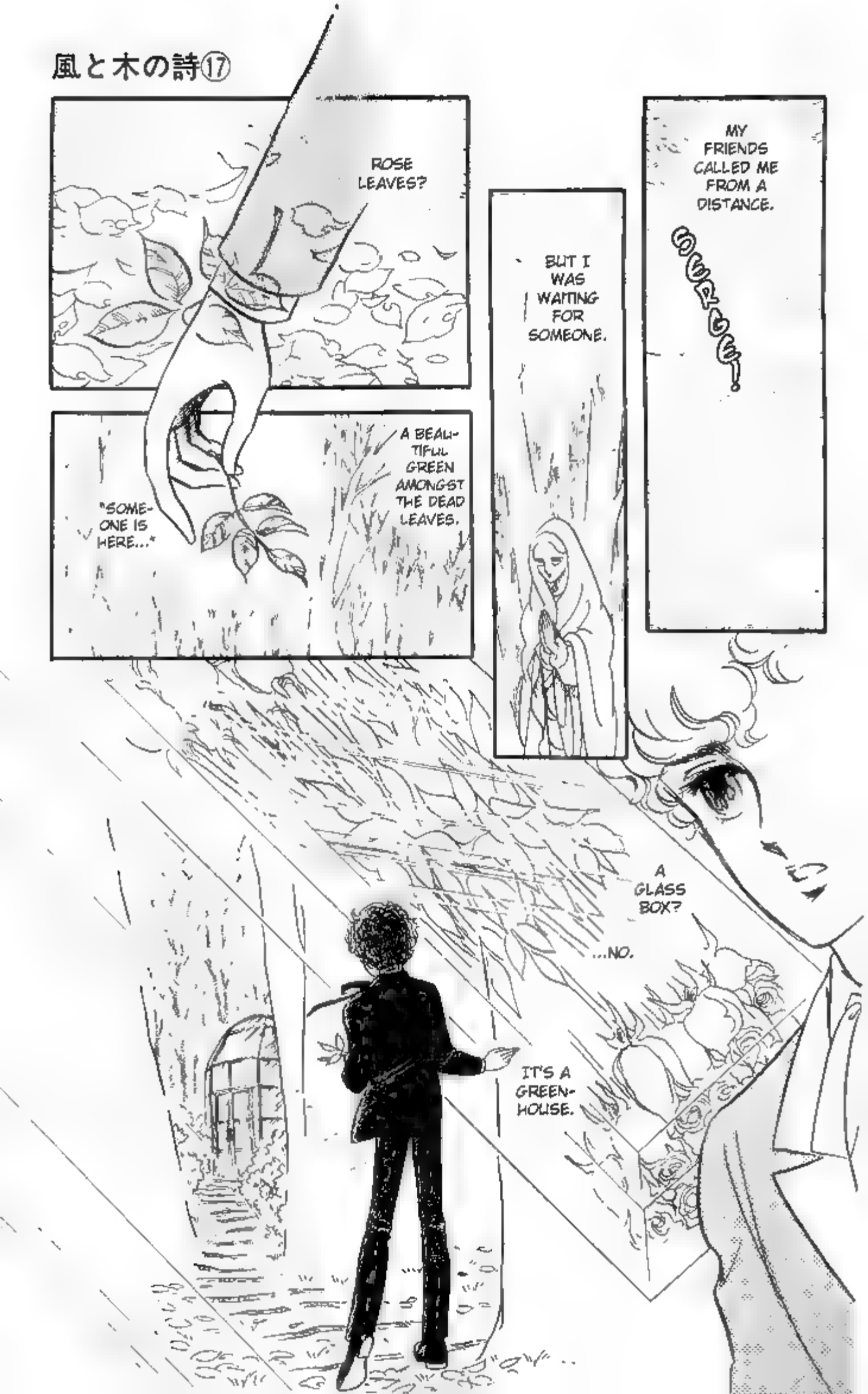
PASCAL, NO!
I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME, SERGE!
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON BEING HAUNTED BY A DEAD GUY!?
HE WAS SO IRRITATED, IT SEEMED LIKE JEALOUSY.
AND HE CALLED YOU OVER AND OVER...
YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING, HAVEN'T YOU? YOU SOUND WORSE THAN MY HOST FAMILY.
WHAT A DISGRACE, TO HAVE A DRUNKARD FOR A BROTHER!
...
SORRY, PATRICIA.

YOU NEED PEOPLE WHO THINK WITH THEIR HEAD FOR THESE CIRCUM-STANCES.
THERE ARE TWO PLACES WHERE PEOPLE THINK. THE HEAD AND THE HEART...
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK WITH MY HEAD WHEN I SEE HOW HE IS MANIPULATED BY GILBERT'S HEART.
... THIS HAS BEEN THE WORST OUTCOME ...
MAYBE I COULD'VE TRIED TO FIND A SOLUTION SO THAT THEY COULD STILL BE TOGETHER...
I MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO HARSH WITH HIM, TRYING TO SPEAK OF REALITY.
PAS-CAL ...
AND SERGE MUST KNOW THAT, TOO...!
THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO BY WORRYING ABOUT MISTAKES.
I THINK WHAT YOU DID WAS NECES-SARY.

...MAYBE I MISTOOK REALITY AS BEING FREE OF SIN...?
DESTINY IS BEYOND HUMANITY'S UNDER-STANDING.
EVEN IF IT LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE ROAD WE CALL DEATH.
SO PLEASE, PASCAL. DON'T THINK SO GLOOMY ABOUT THIS! THIS ISN'T THE END.
THERE'S STILL THE DISTANT FUTURE TO LOOK TO-WARDS.
...WHAT?
NO-THING ...
THE TINY RIPPLES THAT GO ON FOREVER.
THEY DON'T STAY LOCKED IN A CAGE OF SADNESS.
THE RIPPLES RETURN AMIDST ETERNITY...
IT'S JUST SOME-THING SERGE'S DAD WROTE ...
IRONIC, HUH?

IT WAS BOLD AND RECK-LESS.
IT WAS A CRUEL PLAN THAT DIDN'T CONSIDER OTHER'S FEELINGS.
.....!
PA-TRI-CIA.
SAFE?
...IT DIDN'T SEEM THAT WAY TO ME.
I TRIED TO CREATE A SAFE PLAN ...I JUST DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH GILBERT.
Merci.

*BELL CHIME
IN THE DENSE FOG... THE SOUND OF LEAVES CRUNCHING UNDERFOOT.
THE SOUND OF THE SCHOOL BELL...
I WAS WAITING FOR SOMEONE.
... WAITING


ROSE LEAVES?
"SOMEONE IS HERE..."
A BEAUTIFUL GREEN AMONGST THE DEAD LEAVES.
BUT I WAS WAITING FOR SOMEONE.
MY FRIENDS CALLED ME FROM A DISTANCE.
SURGE!
A GLASS BOX?
...NO.
IT'S A GREENHOUSE.

HEH HEH ...
TEE-HEE ... HEH HEH HEH ...
...WHAT IS THAT?
...I CAN'T REMEMBER... THE LAUGHTER I HEARD FROM SOMEWHERE.
SOME-WHERE ...
... ONE DAY ...

SERGE ...
I FAILED.
HEY ...
DO YOU WANT ME... TO COMFORT YOU...?
I COULDN'T LOVE HIM.
HM...? WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU CAN'T BE COLD.
YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF IF YOU DON'T PAY ENOUGH ATTENTION TO YOUR SURROUNDINGS
THAT'S WHAT MY MOM TELLS ME.
I TOOK HIM AWAY FROM FROM WHAT HE NEEDED TO GROW.
HE WAS A ROSE THAT WAS TOO DIFFICULT TO TAKE CARE OF.

...I KILLED HIM.
HE WILTED AND DIED...
H-
HEY... YOU'RE HURTING ME.
STOP
YOU'RE HOLDING ME TOO TIGHTLY ...!
I KILLED HIM!
SERGE! WHAT ARE YOU...
TORMENTED ...
I TORTURED HIM...
AAAH! AAH!

THE SKY IS BEAUTIFUL IN THE PARK, AND THERE'S LOTS OF BIRDS.
...COME ON, SERGE, LET'S GO.
IT'S TIME.
LET GO OF HER!
SHE'S NOT GILBERT!
WAIT, PASCAL!
I CAN ...
THERE WE GO.
YOU'RE DOING VERY WEL...
...THAT'S RIGHT.
WATCH WHERE YOU STEP.

I SWEAR!
I'M NEVER DOING ANYTHING NICE FOR SERGE AGAIN!
PAT...!
THE WORLD WOULD NEVER SURVIVE WITHOUT THEM.
SOME THINGS WOMEN ARE JUST INSANELY GOOD AT.
SEE ONLY ONE BIRD, UNCERTAIN WHAT TO DO.
...IT'S AS IF...
...IT'S WAITING FOR GILBERT.
...I LOOK AT THE SKY.
LOOK AT THE SKY.

Gyaah!
hahaha
Ahaha
AND SMILING FROM THE HEART BECAUSE OF...?
DID YOU ONLY THINK ABOUT BEING HAPPY,
DID YOU ONLY WORK FOR HIS SAKE?
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO YOU IF YOU STOPPED WORKING?
SERGE, ARE YOU NO LONGER EVEN THINKING ABOUT
...AH

I SAW YOUR BACK...
ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER...
THAT DAY, WHEN IT WAS DRIZZLING.
...
EVERYONE WAS THERE.
WE ONLY SAW YOUR BACK ...
EVEN IF WE REACHED OUT
YOU WERE ALWAYS SEPARATED FROM US.
SERGE !?
...YOU WERE... SEPA-RATED FROM US.

WHY DID I LET GO ....OF GILBERT'S HAND?
WHY ...
HE ALWAYS... WANTED TO BE TOGETHER HAND-IN-HAND.
I WANTED TO SEE HIS SMILE.
...BUT ALL I REMEMBER IS HIS BACK.
WE... WE ALL KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, OK!?
OH, SERGE!
I KNOW!
GIL-BERT!!
EVEN IF I CALL HIM AND REACH AFTER HIM.
ONLY HIS BACK.

YOU HAVE WINGS!
YOU ALWAYS LEAVE ME BEHIND...

SERGE TURNED TO MY CHEST, IN PAIN.
IT SEEMED LIKE HE WAS STUCK IN A DREAM.
HE SCREAMED, BUT NO SOUND CAME OUT.
AND,
IT FINALLY DAWNED ON ME.
TO YOUR AUNT, WHOM I'VE NEVER MET...
WHAT'S TO COME AS A RESULT OF MY CONCERNS,
IS A LETTER.
THAT THE LOWER QUARTERS ...
WERE NOW NOTHING MORE THAN A PRISON ...

カ"
カ" ラ
ラ
カ"
ラ
BE CAREFUL, I DON'T WANT YOU CATCHING ANY DISEASES...
DON'T WORRY. HE DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF AN ILL-NESS.
I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE WHAT WILL COME, OF SERGE'S NEW FUTURE, BUT...
PATRICIA, ARE YOU GOING OUT AGAIN TODAY?
YES, SORRY.
BUT I GAVE BELLE AND FLORIAN HOMEWORK FOR GRAMMAR.
OH... FOR MISS PATRICIA?
THANK YOU MOST VERY MUCH FOR YOUR LETTER.
WE'VE COME AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE VISCOUNTCY OF BATTOUR.
HELLO ...?

MY ...
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!? VISC-COUNTCY ...?
YES.
HELLO
ARE YOU... PATRICIA ... BIQUET?
.....
STAY STRONG, PAT...
I'M THE ONE THAT SENT THE LETTER.
THEY'RE HERE. TO PICK UP SERGE.
OH.
MY NAME IS ANGELIN. ...I AM SERGE'S COUSIN.
MY MOTHER HAS FALLEN ILL... SO I'VE COME TO GIVE MY THANKS AND APOLOGY...

P... PLEASE, MISS.
COME IN AND LET US TALK!
SHE LOOKS EVEN YOUNGER THAN ME, THIS GIRL.
THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME WHERE SERGE WAS...!
EVER SINCE MY ENGAGEMENT WAS CALLED OFF...
.....
MY MOTHER HAS WITHDRAWN HERSELF FROM WATCHING OVER THE VISCOUNTCY.
SHE WENT BACK TO HER HOME IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AND NO LONGER MAKES PUBLIC APPEARANCES.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING OVER THE VISCOUNTCY FOR NOW...
AND I'VE BEEN PREPPING THE SERVANTS FOR WHENEVER SERGE RETURNS.
... SO, THEN.
PLEASE TELL SERGE...
THAT HE HAS A HOME TO COME BACK TO...

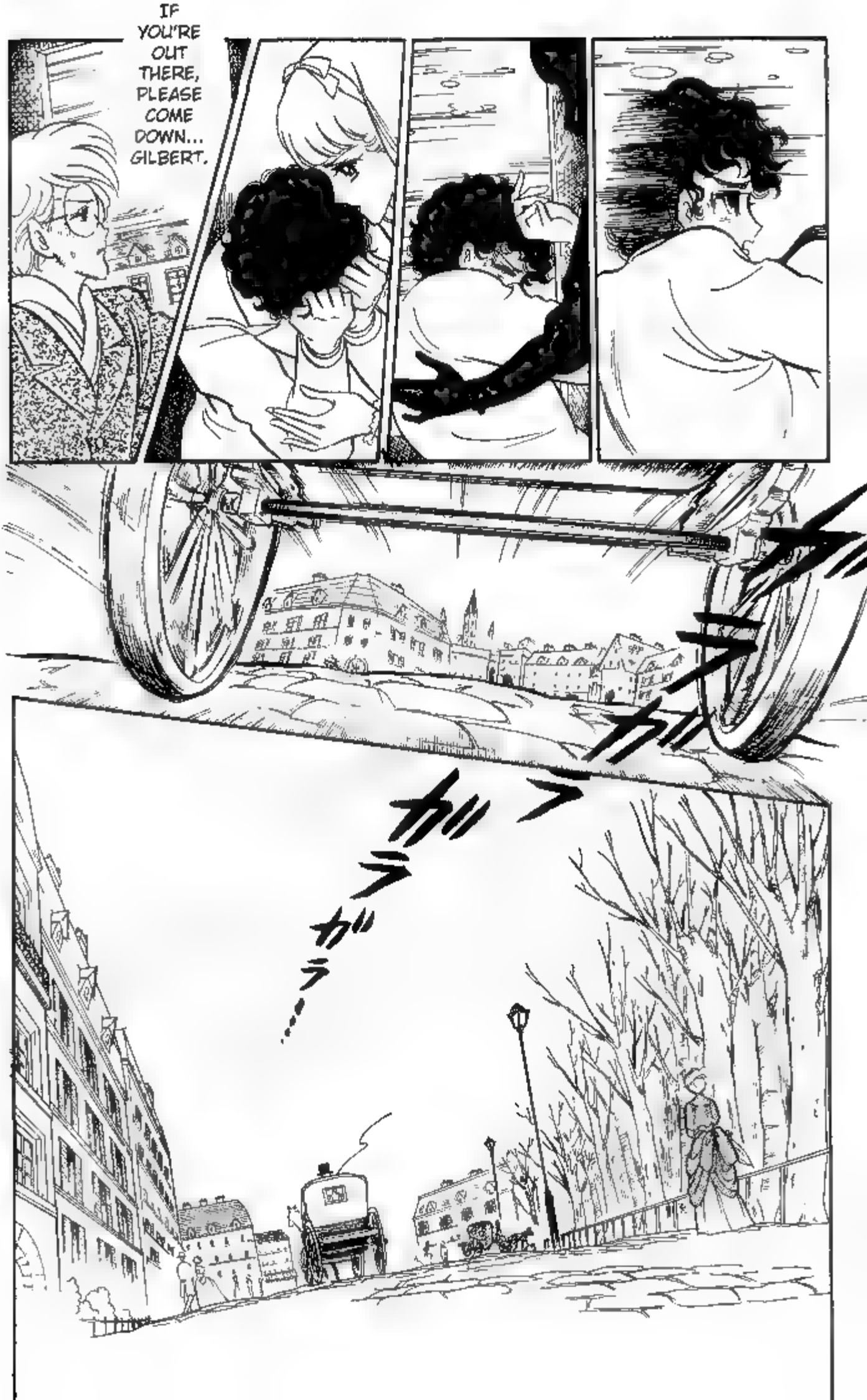
HE WILL BE ... VISCOUNT BATTOLR.
SERGE ... IS AL-READY 17.
WHEN HE TURNS 18...
.... VISCOUNT ...
EVEN HEARING THAT, IT DOESN'T SOUND REAL.
I UNDER-STAND ...I FEEL AT EASE LEAVING HIM IN YOUR CARE.
AND I THINK HE SHOULD GO HOME TO DO THAT!
BUT, HE WILL GET BETTER.
...SERGE JUST LOST SOMEONE VERY DEAR TO HIM, SO HE DOESN'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO BE THAT PERSON...

...
WHAT GRACEFUL MOVEMENTS THAT GIRL HAS...
NO ...
I WANT TO KEEP THIS PLACE PRECIOUS TO HIM.
ARE YOU GOING TO SEE HIM?
ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU SEND HIM HOME WHEN YOU THINK THE TIME IS RIGHT.
SHE LOOKS MORE MATURE THAN HER AGE WOULD IMPLY...
IT MAKES SENSE... THAT HE WOULD COME FROM THAT WORLD.
AND HE LIVED WITH THE ANGEL OF HIS DREAMS ...
IN THE LOWER QUAR-TER.

THIS IS ALL THE...
LUG-GAGE?
YES. THANK YOU.
.....
WE'RE GOING BACK TO YOUR HOME.
OK, SERGE. COME ON.

♫ THE SEA-GULLS, THE SEA-GULLS.
THE SEAGULLS STOW AWAY FEELINGS OF YEARNING
IN THE DEN OF LOVE
ピッ
ガラ
ガラ
THEY ERASE THE UNCERTAINTY AND ANXIETY OF EVERY DAY,
IN THE DEN OF LOVE...
ガラ
ガラガラ
STOP ...!
HEY, WATCH IT!
SERGE!

....I LOVE YOU...


IF YOU'RE OUT THERE, PLEASE COME DOWN... GILBERT.
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ!!

WOW ...
THIS IS...
WHERE YOU WERE RAISED?

SERGE...
WEL-COME HOME.
WE'VE HAD A LOT HAPPEN TO BOTH OF US...
HAVEN'T WE?
WELCOME HOME... YOU'VE FINALLY RETURNED...
WE BOTH... LOST SO MUCH.
BUT IT'S OVER NOW... YOU'RE HOME.

...DO YOU REMEMBER? THIS IS YOUR BUTLER, CLAUDE.
HE HAS BEEN WAITING HERE FOR YOU THIS WHOLE TIME.
AH, I MEAN, SIR!
...YOUNG MAS-TER!
C... CLAUDE
RUEL ...?
YOUNG MAS-TER!
MAS-TER SERGE!
WE'VE ALL BEEN TERRIBLY WORRIED FOR YOU, SIR...
I'M... VERY GLAD TO SEE YOU HAVE RE-TURNED.

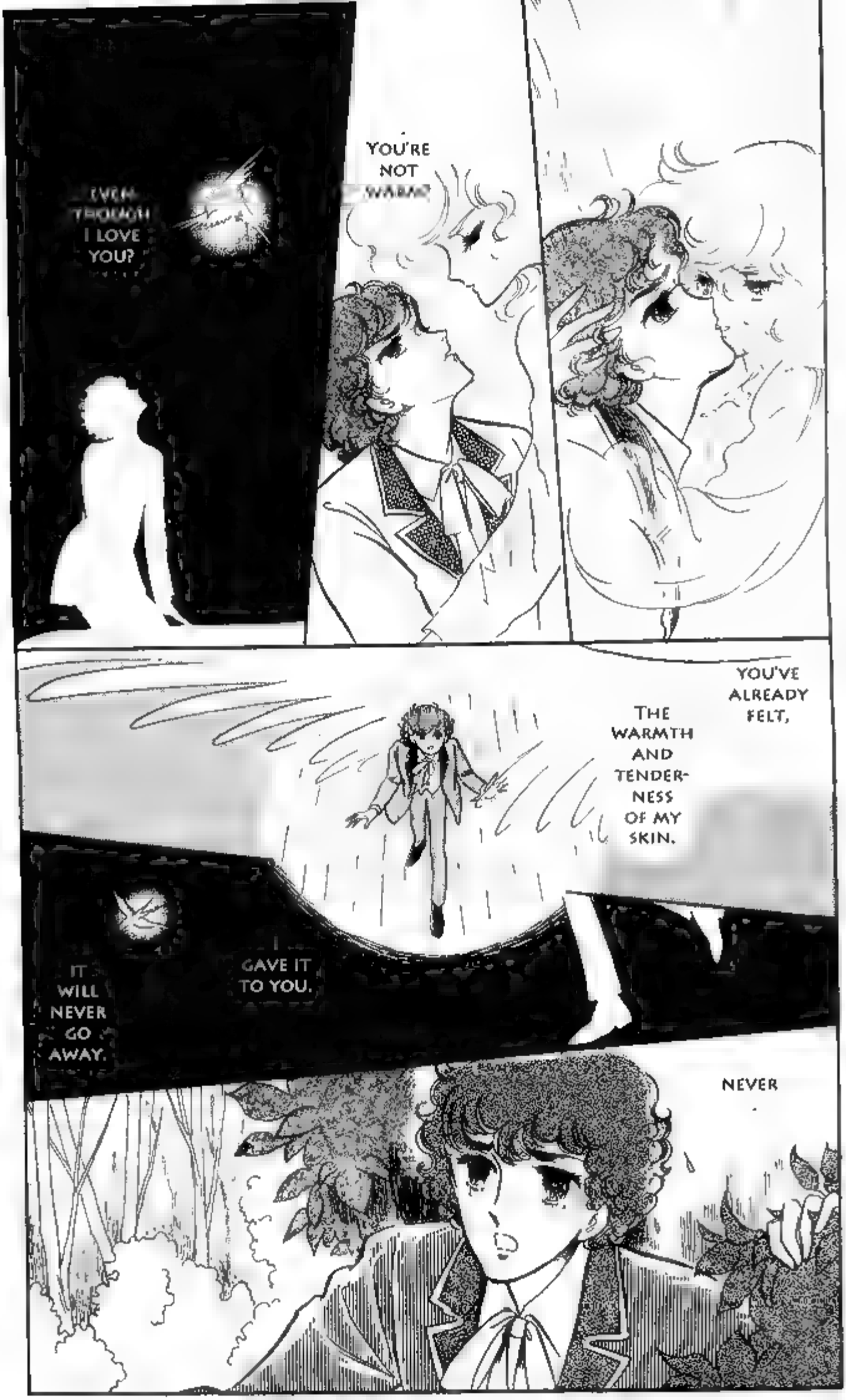
...OH
RIGHT.
YOU'VE GOTTEN ...SO BIG!
WE WERE BESIDES OUR-SELVES WAITING FOR YOU!
WE'VE SO LOOKED FORWARD TO YOUR RETURN!
LADY ANGELIN HAD CALLED US BACK HERE...
BUT,
THE BANISTER ON THE STAIRS USED TO BE TALLER ...
...I'VE SEEN THIS ROOM BEFORE.
...THE COLUMNS,
THE PATTERN OF THE FLOOR TILES.

BUT THAT WAS A LIE.
SOON, CHILD
WHERE'S MAMAN?
THAT'S ME.
THAT'S
MAMAN IS
...
DEAD
...
HEY
WHEN'S MAMAN COMING?
ah
...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING !?
MASTER SERGE!?
YOUNG MAS-TER!
LET'S WAIT UNTIL HE ACCEPTS US INTO HIS LIFE ONCE MORE.
...
THAT'S WHAT WE PROMISED, RIGHT?
...LET HIM BE...
TO HIM WE WERE JUST FIGURES FROM THE DISTANT PAST...

THIS IS SERGE'S WET NURSE, MONA.
AND THIS IS JEANNE, WHO WAS A MAID.
...THIS MAN IS CLAUDE. HE HAS BEEN A BUTLER FOR THE FAMILY SINCE SERGE'S GRAND-FATHER'S TIME.
THEY ALL... KNEW SERGE WHEN HE WAS LITTLE.
THIS PLACE IS SURROUNDED BY GARDENS HE SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH...
UM...
WILL HE...
IT LOOKS LIKE A FOREST ...
THE GARDEN ...
EVERYONE WHO GAVE ME WARMTH.
GONE ...
THEY'RE ALL GONE.

...ON A SUMMER DAY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT WAS ON THE FLOOR,
LYING ON ITS SIDE... DEAD.
A SWALLOW
FLEW.
IN THE SMALL GREEN HOUSE,

FOR ALL ETERNITY
DEAD...
I CAN'T TOUCH YOU.
YOUR WARMTH ...
I WILL NEVER GET TO FEEL


EVEN THOUGH I LOVE YOU?
YOU'RE NOT WARM?
YOU'VE ALREADY FELT,
THE WARMTH AND TENDERNESS OF MY SKIN.
IT WILL NEVER GO AWAY.
I GAVE IT TO YOU.
NEVER

HON-
OR
THE
NAME
OF
THE
LORD.
♫
HO-
SAN-
NA!

THE LORD WATCHES OVER US.
FROM THE HEAVENS
THE LORD!
PLEASE ILLUMINATE OUR SCHOOL AND LIGHT OUR WAY.
"I GIVE MY SHORT TIME SPENT AS A YOUTH."
"FOR MY SON, SERGE,"

HOSANNA!
IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN
HOSANNA!

.....
HE TRIED SO DESPERATELY TO LOVE GILBERT.
THAT'S WHY... HE WAS SO DRAWN TO HIM.
EVERYONE WHO HAS LOVED HIM HAVE ALL PASSED AWAY.
I FEEL SO SORRY FOR SERGE ...
HIS FATHER DIED WHEN HE WAS NO OLDER THAN FOUR, AND THAT WAS A GREAT SHOCK TO HIM.
THAT MASTER SERGE HAS DEVELOPED A SEVERE REACTION TO DEATH SINCE HE WAS A BOY.
... IT'S TRUE.
PAT ...!
I'M NOT GOING TO ALLOW HIM... TO FORGET THAT FOREVER!
...HE HAS ME, AND MY BROTHER, AND YOU!
EVEN SO... THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE SHOULD WALLOW IN HIS OWN MISERY!
ah
... ARE IN LOVE WITH SERGE, AREN'T YOU?
... YOU ...

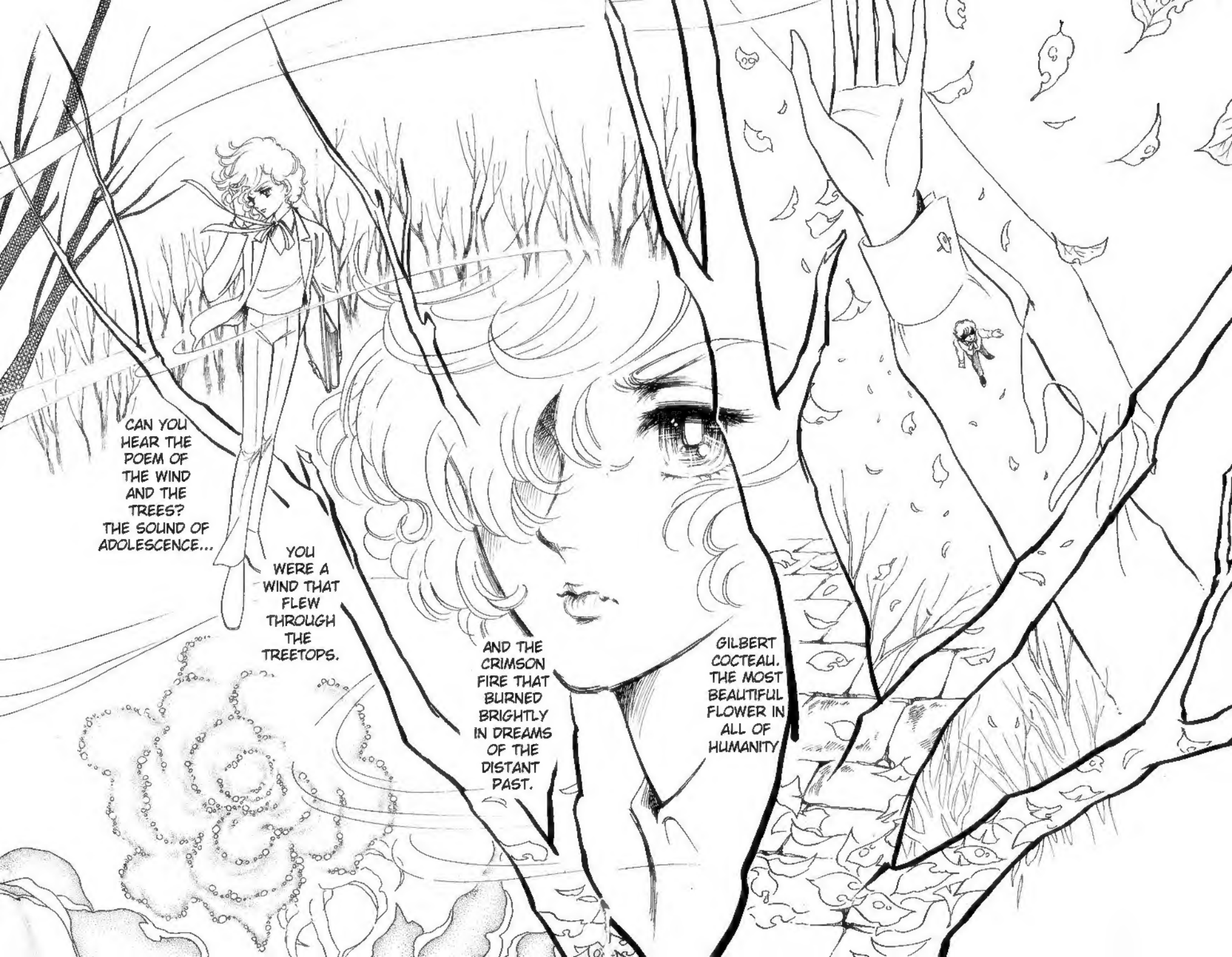
WE ARE IN YOUR DEBT, MISS PATRICIA.
NOW THAT HE HAS A HOME TO STAY IN, I CAN'T BE WITH HIM FOREVER.
IF THIS CONTINUES, THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN STAY BY HIS SIDE AND TALK TO HIM, IS YOU.
.... HUH
WAIT ...! I HEAR A PIANO.
IT'S FAINT, BUT THAT'S DEFINITELY WHAT IT IS!
SERGE!
... OH.

...WAIT! COME IN.
UH ... UH, ACK ...
OH?
I WAS ASKING FOR YOUR NAME.
WHO ARE YOU ...?
... THAT'S A CUTE NAME.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, PAULINE.
... PAULINE.
I'M A MAID THAT JUST STARTED WORKING UNDER MISS JEANNE.
FORGIVE ME! I WAS JUST DRAWN HERE BY THE BEAUTIFUL SOUNDS...
MASTER ....
THAT I'LL BE ALRIGHT NOW.
AND TELL THEM...
...IS OK.
AND BRING OUR GUESTS INTO THE BEST PARLOUR WE HAVE.
PLEASE GO TO THE LIVING ROOM...

HE'S 100% NORMAL.
OH ...
I LOOK FOR-WARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.
... PAUL-INE.
BUT ALSO 100% ...
Y... YE-
YES, SIR!
AMAZING!!
... LADY ANGE-LIN !!
LADY ANGELIN !!
.....!

SERGE
....?

OH
...


CAN YOU HEAR THE POEM OF THE WIND AND THE TREES? THE SOUND OF ADOLESCENCE...
YOU WERE A WIND THAT FLEW THROUGH THE TREETOPS.
AND THE CRIMSON FIRE THAT BURNED BRIGHTLY IN DREAMS OF THE DISTANT PAST.
GILBERT COCTEAU. THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWER IN ALL OF HUMANITY

YES ...
THE THINGS WE REMEMBER ARE THERE, TOO.
THEY'RE THE MEMORIES OF OUR YOUTH, OF THE DAYS GONE BY...
* END *